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Oct. 10, 1857.

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For the "British Standard" of Feb. 27, 1857, pages 72 &c.

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THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

GALLED BY THE COLLAR.

"ON Sunday last I attended one of the services conducted by Nonconformists, and the hall was thronged, principally by members of the working classes, who were most devout and attentive. I confess that as I walked away I was almost overwhelmed with shame to think that the Church of England alone was excluded from holding such services; that the Church of England alone, which is constituted the Church of the realm, and to which such a duty is peculiarly assigned, should be the only body among believers or unbelievers which is not allowed to open a hall with the view of giving instruction to the people." So spoke Lord Shaftesbury to his brother peers, spiritual and temporal, on Tuesday se'nnight, when, as our readers are aware, he postponed the second reading of his "Religious Worship Act Amendment Bill." We can quite understand the noble lord's mortification. But what is the exact meaning of his next and concluding sentence? "In consequence of the representations of the right rev. prelate (the Bishop of Oxford), who stated that it was the wish of a large majority of the bishops, I promised to postpone the second reading of this bill; but in urging this postponement—which is no doubt intended to lead to the ultimate rejection of the measure—I must say I think the right rev. prelates make the fatal announcement that the Established Church, as she now stands, is not capable of performing those duties, the discharge of which was the object of her foundation, and that she is altogether unable, unless with the aid of Nonconformists, to instruct and evangelise the people of this country."

"Fatal announcement!" What is it? That the Church of England, as she now stands, is unable, unless with the aid of the Nonconformists, to instruct and evangelise the people of this country. Fatal to what? Fatal to whom? Fatal to the pretensions of the Church of England, which undertakes to do the whole work without unauthorised help. Fatal to the narrow sectarianism of those who, if it were possible, would pre-occupy the entire ground, and elbow out the Nonconformist bodies. But what then? Is Lord Shaftesbury so intent upon upholding those pretensions, and gratifying that sectarianism? We wish we could say "No." We have read through his speech more than once with scrupulous attention. We admit that he speaks gratefully and even handsomely of Nonconformists for having stepped into the place which was meant to have been filled by the Church of England, and for having done that service with delicacy and forbearance. But, with this exception, the whole tone of his speech is exclusive. He talks of the inability of parochial clergymen to minister to every inhabitant of large parishes, as identical with "spiritual destitution," never once caring to qualify his statements by an admission that the lack of service, on the part of the incumbent, is, to a large extent, supplied by the free agency of other denominations. He assumes that, even in those large parishes, the incumbent is the *one person* to whom ten, twenty, or fifty thousand persons have to look for spiritual assistance and guidance. In a word, the whole stress of his appeal for a modification of the parochial system rests on the consideration that the Church of England "is constituted the Church of the realm." If the announcement of opposition to this proposed modification, on the part of a majority of the prelates, should prove "*fatal*" to anything, it will be so only to this preposterous assumption—a result about which we do not see why a Christian man like Lord Shaftesbury should evince such deep concern.

But then, we are provoked to ask, is the "announcement" in conformity with fact? Is it, or is it not true, that the Established Church, as she now stands, *can* instruct and evangelise the people of this country, without the aid of Nonconformists? Does Lord Shaftesbury mean to assert that his Church is *able* to do the whole work unaided? Why, no one knows better than his lordship what would become of that work, if Nonconformists did not do more than one-half of it. Are the right rev. prelates, then, who demur to Lord Shaftesbury's proposals, to be blamed for recognising the actual state of things? Is it obligatory upon them to give way to him, lest, forsooth, by opposing him, they should let the cat out of the bag? And, after all, with the census of 1851 before us, where would be, we do not say the truthfulness, but the policy, of taking this or the other course, lest the impotence of the State Church, as compared with her pretensions, should be impliedly admitted, and lest a hollow ecclesiastical fiction, long since statistically exploded, should be argumentatively surrendered also?

Lord Shaftesbury was overwhelmed with shame when he contrasted the restriction put upon his Church with the liberty enjoyed by Dissenters. Does he never ask himself the reason why the contrast exists? Why cannot his Church "go and do likewise"? Just because, as he says, she is "constituted the Church of the realm." His lordship seems to think that such distinction ought to insure to her greater liberty than that enjoyed by others, rather than less. It does arm her with greater ecclesiastical *power*—but for that very reason she is entrusted with less ecclesiastical *freedom*. And it must be so—it always will be so, whilst a Church Establishment remains. The paid functionary of the State must submit to restraints which an unattached citizen despises—must do things more in routine order—must merge his individuality of will. It is so with an Established Church. She receives power from the law, and resigns to it her freedom. She cannot ascend to an authoritative position without being limited by legal checks. We hope she never will. We have no objection to some loosening of the collar which so desperately galls her neck—but when this is done, Lord Shaftesbury will discover that she has not slipped it—scarcely, in reality, lengthened her chain.

LORD JOHN'S LITTLE BILL.

To "cut your coat according to your cloth" is generally considered a maxim of wise economy. Lord John seems to act upon this maxim in framing his successive Parliamentary Oaths Bills. Looking at the prolonged resistance of the House of Lords, he abates his demand upon every renewal of it. He has now got down to a "very little bill"—less, it is impossible for him to ask. He consolidates and amends the three oaths of allegiance, supremacy and abjuration, precisely as was done last year by Lord Palmerston's measure, and he retains the attestation "on the true faith of a Christian." But he provides that whenever a Jew comes to take the oath, the words constituting the Christian form of attestation shall be omitted. He hopes that this will be allowed to pass—but if not, he has not surrendered, he intimates, the right of the House to adopt the construction put upon the Act of 5 and 6 William IV. by the Attorney-General last session, and to substitute a declaration for an oath in the case of Jews returned to Parliament. He does not, indeed, distinctly announce his intention of thus evading the obstinacy of the Peers—that would be a menace—but he would "not think it right to allow this question to drop altogether without giving the House an opportunity of considering whether or not they will adopt the proposition of a declaration instead of an oath to be taken by members who object to certain words in that oath."

The opposition to the noble lord's measure dwindles down to due conformity with the smallness of its proportions. Sir Frederick Thesiger has really nothing to say beyond this, that this stone will not render the edifice of religious liberty complete, and that the same logic which will open the door of the senate to a Jew will open it as readily to a Hindoo, a Mohammedan, or an Atheist. Whether he hoped to scare the House of Commons by showing them the abyss that yawned before them, it is not for us to say. If so, however, he failed—for Mr. Cox slily pointed out, in a single sentence, a tolerably secure footbridge over that terrible hypothetical chasm. "The hon. and learned member for Stamford," he said, "had talked a great deal about the admission of Hindoos and Mohammedans, but before either a Hindoo or a Mohammedan could claim a seat in that House, he must first be elected by a constituency." Nor was Mr. Newdegate much more successful when he protested against giving up our Christianity in England just at the very moment when the Providence of God was rebuking us for having done so in India. The reply of Mr. Walter was most complete, and unanswerable. We cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of quoting it. "What was it that excited so much alarm in the minds of those hon. members? Why, that the bill for admitting the Jews to Parliament would have the effect of destroying the Christianity of the country. Why, that was the very argument used by the Sepoys, who complained that their religion was going to be destroyed by 'greased cartridges.' What was a religion worth that could be destroyed by such means? But was the apprehension of the Sepoy a bit more irrational than that of hon. members who thought that Christianity could be destroyed by an Act of Parliament? It was degrading Christianity to make it amenable to any such influence."

We cannot profess any very lively interest in the fate of so curtailed a measure as that of Lord John Russell, which, in truth, enlarges only by the smallest practicable addition the area of religious liberty. But we can heartily rejoice in the utterance, in the House of Commons, by Conservative as well as Liberal members, of sentiments which lie at the very basis of religious freedom—sentiments which could not have been enunciated ten years ago without exciting a general scoff, and which, in our conscience, we believe, have now become prevalent, owing chiefly to the indirect and reflux influence of the Liberation Society. We are not, indeed, astonished to hear Mr. Pease declare his belief that "it was the essence of the principles of Christianity which caused the House to establish its guards and forms, and that, although the forms should be abolished, this essence or spirit would still preserve the Christianity of the Legislature"—because such a declaration is only in harmony with his avowed persuasion. But when Mr. J. Butt, justifying his recent change of opinion on this question, says of the Christian character of this nation that "it rested primarily, upon the prevalence of Christian doctrines and Christian precepts among the mass of the people; and, secondly, upon the result of that prevalence as evidenced by those laws which were inseparably woven with our social constitution"—when we find Mr. Griffith, another Conservative member, insist that "the House of Commons was a political and not a religious assembly"—and finally when we listen to Mr. Walter emphatically quoting the well-known passage, "My kingdom is not of this world," and contending that "the Christianity of the country depended, not on the House of Commons, but on the personal religion of the individual members of society"—we cannot but congratulate ourselves upon having got into such respectable companionship, nor can we help anticipating, at no very distant date, the legi-

timate application of these sound principles to larger questions than that involved in Jewish Emancipation Bills.

RELIGIOUS BODIES AND THE CLAIMS OF INDIA.

THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY have presented a memorial to her Majesty in which they declare that neutrality has not and cannot be practically maintained by a Christian Government in the midst of Hindoo and Mohammedan institutions.

The Government, for example, has been compelled to suppress by law certain so-called religious practices, which violated the laws of humanity; and, while professing to respect false religions, has unavoidably undermined their foundations by educational and social improvements. That your Majesty's Government has presented to the people of India a disingenuous aspect, and has exposed itself to the charge, falsely alleged against it by the mutineers, of designing to make them Christians by fraud or coercion.

They therefore pray that it may be declared to the public authorities in the East Indies—

1. That the existing policy will be no longer professed or maintained; but that, as it is the belief of your Majesty and of this Christian nation that the adoption of the Christian religion, upon an intelligent conviction of its truth, will be ancalculable benefit to the natives of India, the countenance and aid of Government will be given to any legitimate measures for bringing that religion under their notice and investigation.

2. That—since the Government, in addition to maintaining its own educational establishments, offers grants-in-aid to all other schools which provide a prescribed amount of secular knowledge, according to the principles laid down in its Educational Despatch of July 19, 1854—the Bible will be introduced into the system of education in all Government schools and colleges, as the only standard of moral rectitude, and the source of those Christian principles upon which your Majesty's government is to be conducted.

3. That any connexion which may still subsist between the Indian Government and the revenues or ceremonies of the Mohammedan, Hindoo, or other false religions, shall at once cease and determine.

Your memorialists humbly suggest that it should at the same time be made known to your Majesty's Mohammedan and heathen subjects that attendance at Government schools and colleges is, and will be purely voluntary; that Christian principles forbid the employment of fraud, bribery, or coercion of any kind whatever, as the means of inducing men to profess the Christian faith, and allow to every man the free exercise of his choice or conscience in religious matters; and that in conformity with these principles none of the rites or usages of the Hindoo or Mohammedan religions will be interfered with, unless at variance with humanity or public decency.

Finally, your Majesty's memorialists humbly submit to your Majesty that there can be no fitter time for inaugurating these changes than when the armies of England have gained a signal triumph, through the blessing of Almighty God, and British authority in India appears again in its strength and confidence.

The memorial is signed by the following well-known persons:—The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Vice-Patron; the Earl of Chichester, President; the Earl of Shaftesbury, Vice-President; the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., Vice-President; Captain the Hon. F. Maude, R.N., Vice-President; Bishop of Chichester, Vice-President; Lord Henry Cholmondeley, Vice-President; the late Bishop of Bombay (Bp. Carr), Vice-President; the Dean of Carlisle, Vice-President; Bishop of Norwich, Vice-President; Bishop of Winchester, Vice-President; Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, Vice-President, &c., &c.

EDINBURGH UNITED PRESBYTERIAN PRESBYTERY AND THE EVANGELIZATION OF INDIA.—At a recent meeting of this body, Dr. Andrew Thomson said that, as Voluntaries, they could not look without concern at the proposals of many eminent men in the sister country; the strong tendency manifested to ask Government to do what churches only can, and are called upon to do. The Episcopalian panacea for the woes of India was to cover the face of the country with new bishoprics; the Presbyterians—those who had spoken—were more indefinite, but seemed to lean to some Governmental steps being taken. He noticed that their Congregational friends in England were moving, and it was their duty also to speak out, and that speedily. They might prevent much mischief being done, much evil in the future of India. They might modify, if they could not prevent; at all events, by testifying they would exonerate conscience. He begged to move—

That a committee be appointed to draw up a series of resolutions as to the duty of evangelising India, and the principles on which that important object should be prosecuted.

The Rev. Dr. Johnston cordially seconded the motion. Mr. Parlane supported the motion. The Rev. P. Davidson thought that while the Presbytery might not see its way to memorialise the Government on the subject by proceeding in the way indicated in the motion, their people would be incited to use their rights as citizens in the matter. The motion was then unanimously agreed to. The following gentlemen were appointed as a committee:—Drs. Thomson, Johnston, and Peddie, Mr. Millar (elder), Dr. Thomson (convener).

MEMORIAL CHURCHES AT CAWNPORE AND DELHI.—Mr. Underhill, the secretary of the Baptist Mission Society, has written to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, referring to the above project set on foot by them, and asking if it would not be practicable to unite Christians of other denominations in its support. He thinks it would meet with universal acceptance if it were understood that all denominations should have the free use of it on appropriate occasions. The secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has returned the following reply:—

The Rev. Ernest Hawkins, B.D., to E. B. Underhill, Esq.

My dear Sir,—I have had the honour to lay your letter of Nov. 4th before the committee of this society, and am directed by them to say, that much as they appreciate the spirit in which it is written, and deeply as they feel the necessity of union among Christians to the full success of the missionary work, they do not see how the proposal which you make—that the church or chapel to be erected at Cawnpore should be open to the services of Christians of every communion—can be carried into effect consistently with the law and practice of the Church of England. Perhaps also it may be a question whether the right to worship in the same building would really promote union, while I feel satisfied that the announcement of such a plan would lead inevitably to controversy in this country. Probably, however, though the church itself would be consecrated, and so set apart for the service of the Church of England exclusively, it might yet serve as a monument of all who had fallen, and admit tablets and memorial inscriptions without distinction of religious communion.

I am, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,
(Signed) ERNEST HAWKINS.

79, Pall-mall, Nov. 11, 1857.

THE GOVERNMENT AND CHURCH-RATES.

On Saturday before the adjournment of the House of Commons, Mr. T. DUNCOMBE asked the noble lord at the head of the Government whether it was his intention to introduce any measure in the course of the session upon the subject of church-rates.

Lord PALMERSTON: Her Majesty's Government hope to be able to lay before Parliament during the present session a measure on the subject of Church-rates. Of course I cannot give any positive engagement on the subject, because it must depend on the course of public business.

Sir J. TRELAWNY thought that after the answer given by the noble lord on the question of Church-rates, it was hopeless to expect any measure on that subject from the present Government. For the last two years they had been making promises on the subject, and so far from having fulfilled them, the pledge just given by the noble lord was much less binding than his promise of last session. The question had been before the country since 1833, and it was full time it was settled. The noble lord should at once say what horse he intended to name as a winner. If he were the head of a Conservative party, let him say so; if of a Liberal party, let him declare it. He had a large majority, and he ought to come forward like a man, and not suppose that the country was going to be gulled in the way that the noble lord's treatment of Church-rates would seem to indicate. The house was laughed at, and the people of the country treated like children.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

(From the *Plymouth Journal.*)

The Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Control held a meeting at Plymouth on Thursday evening last, at which Mr. Miall and Mr. Carvell Williams were the principal speakers. The latter gentleman addressed himself especially to the past history of the society, and showed how beneficially it had affected the operations of the Legislature on many questions in which the principles held by the society had to be applied to the laws of the land. While there are active organisations amongst the State Church clergy, and especially amongst the High Church faction, the existence of an active body like that which is led by Mr. Miall is a great public benefit, and we think our readers will come to the same conclusion if they will only peruse the able speech of Mr. Williams, which we insert in another column. The society may take credit for much useful legislation, for they have leavened some of our recent Acts of Parliament with the right spirit, and while the laws are right we care for little else that the *dilettanti* priesthood may attempt. It must, for instance, be a bitter pill for Dr. Phillpotts to have to swallow, that which has purged him of his churchyard-walling propensities, and which has enabled the public to appeal for a license to other powers, and to the avoidance of such an old bigot as he is. This liberty we enjoy through the Liberation Society. The efforts of the same body, assisted as they are by the generally liberal spirit which prevails in both Houses of Parliament, obtained for us the opening of the Universities for Dissenters, the abolition of Ministers' Money, and other valuable changes in the law, which have tended to put all people—no matter what may be their religious opinions—on terms of civil equality with each other. Mr. Miall made an admirable speech on the future government of India, in which he strongly urged it to be our bounden duty to do what we could to Christianise India by moral suasion, and by presenting to the natives the beauty of Christian truth, instead of enforcing it by coercion, or in the interference of Government. At such a time as this, when every one feels that England has not done its duty with regard to India, it is of the utmost importance that we should start with right principles; for if we start right, we shall go on well; if we start wrong, there may be ages of wrong-doing hereafter to repair. We rejoice, therefore, to see an attempt made to prevent the evils of bad legislation from beginning, and the efforts of the society that Mr. Miall so ably represents cannot be better devoted at the present moment than to a steady guidance of the legislative and public mind into right channels on so momentous a subject.

MEETINGS OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.—On Tuesday the 8th inst., a meeting of the society was held in the Athenæum, Exeter, which, contrary to the anticipation of some, who had not expected such a result in an episcopal and thoroughly churchified city, was filled with a very respectable audience. J. D. Osborne, Esq., a magistrate, was chairman. Mr. Carvell Williams, the secretary, attended as a deputation from the society, and delivered an address, which touched upon all the leading ecclesiastical incidents of recent date having a bearing on the society's object. The Bishop of Exeter's conduct in respect to the Burial Laws was glanced at, in an allusion to certain functionaries who "had a natural genius for running their heads against walls, which, indeed, they insisted should be erected for the very purpose of running their heads against them. The Legislature had, however, declared that no wall of separation was needful in cemeteries, and so their very notorious, if not much beloved, diocesan had succumbed. He had, however, succumbed too late for some Churchmen, who thought that, as they had done without consecration so long, they could now dispense with it altogether." At the close of Mr. Williams's address the Rev. Stewart Williamson moved, and Mr. J. P. Nicholls seconded, a motion having reference to the society, and the usual votes of thanks were given. At Totnes, on the following night, Mr. Williams addressed an audience in the Guildhall, where John Slatter, Esq. presided, and Messrs. Tucker, Windeatt and others, took part in the proceedings. Mr. Williams explained the provisions of the bill just brought in by Lord Shaftesbury for the amendment of the Religious Worship Act, and exposed the noble lord's inconsistency in meeting the evil complained of by a measure which involved the very principle from which the evil had arisen.

PROTESTANT DISSENTERS' ALMANACK AND POLITICAL ANNUAL FOR 1858.—This yearly cheap sixpennyworth of information still asserts its claim to be an indispensable companion to the reformer, political and ecclesiastical. The contents besides being intrinsically valuable are well digested and arranged. Whoever wants a ready reference for matters connected with the Church Establishment, such as church-rates, burial laws, and statutes affecting Dissenters; or with political reform, such as the drift of recent proposals, and the way to register a vote, will here find the desideratum. Part 3 is specially devoted to Dissenting statistics, such as the various societies, schools, papers, magazines, &c., and contains a list of Independent and Baptist chapels and ministers in and near London. Not the least interesting feature is an outline of the principal events of the year. If the Almanack has a success commensurate with its merits its circulation will be very wide.

THE RATCATCHER'S RATE.—Under this head a correspondent points ont that in the churchwardens accounts for the parish of Streatham the item "Ratcatcher, 2*l.* 2*s.*" has figured for twenty years past, and that this year a summons is issued unless the rate laid for these and other doubtful items is paid.

Religious Intelligence.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AT BETHNAL-GREEN.—On Wednesday evening a scene of a very extraordinary character was witnessed in the neighbourhood of Bethnal-green. The Bishop of London had issued a notice stating that he had heard much of the spiritual wants of that neighbourhood, and especially of the poorer classes, and that he was desirous of meeting and preaching to them on subjects connected with their present welfare and future happiness. St. Matthew's Church, which is situated in the most densely populated and pauperized district of the parish, was selected as the place at which the Bishop had to deliver his address, and long before eight o'clock, the time appointed for the commencement of the service, the spacious church was densely crowded by such an auditory as it is quite safe to say was never before seen in any Church in England. The people who assembled were of the poorest possible classes,—men with fustian jackets and unshaven faces, women whose faces betokened the sad privations they are called upon to endure, and many in absolute rags; but, lest there should be any mistake as to the services being meant for them, some of the most respectable members of the ordinary congregation stationed themselves at the doors and in the streets, and, as the people approached, half ashamed to enter, they were invited in and shown to seats, all of which throughout the church were set apart for their accommodation. These were speedily filled, and the church being crowded to suffocation, hundreds of persons, having vainly struggled to obtain admission, assembled in the adjacent streets, and occupied themselves in discussing the nature of this new movement for their edification. The bishop entered the church at a few minutes before eight o'clock, and made his way with great difficulty through the dense mass of people to the vestry-room. The congregation rose in a body to receive and welcome him. Having put on his episcopal robes, he took his seat at the communion table, and the ordinary service was performed by the Rev. John Colborne, M.A., the minister of the church. His lordship then ascended the pulpit and selected for his text the first few verses of the 21st chapter of Revelations, in which St. John describes the "New Jerusalem," "the new heaven and the new earth," and the eventual departure from the world of sin and sorrow. In an animated address, suited to the minds of the congregation, he pointed out to them the vagueness of the notions of the generality of men as to the nature of heaven, assuring them that their future state of happiness would not be in some unreal and unsubstantial place among the clouds, but that their real bodies would be reunited with their real souls on a real new earth, which the

Book of Revelations so majestically described. The congregation, unused to such earnestness, were struck with his lordship's animated, and yet simple style of oratory, and as he passed away from the church followed him by hundreds, but without uttering a word. It was announced that the bishop will preach at St. Peter's Church, in the same parish, on the evening of Wednesday, the 23rd inst.

CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION SOCIETY CONFERENCE.—On Tuesday evening, the 8th inst., a conference of the members and friends of the Christian Instruction Society was held in the Congregational Library, Samuel Morley, Esq., in the chair. The object of the meeting was to hear a statement from the Rev. J. H. Wilson, of Aberdeen, of the result of his visit to the churches in London, with a view to the consideration of such measures as might tend to the revival of the Christian Instruction Society. The Rev. Robert Ashton, as one of the secretaries of the society, read a report from the committee, showing how useful the society had been in former years, and how much room there is for its practical operations now.—Mr. Wilson then read his report, which stated that during the past eight weeks he had addressed 150 meetings and preached twenty sermons; occupying thirty pulpits, and speaking to about 70,000 persons. After adverting to the spiritual destitution of the metropolis, and to the necessity of more decidedly aggressive action on the part of the Churches themselves, he suggested as a remedial measure, that an evangelical union should be formed to consist of churches approving of its objects and subscribing to its funds. "This union we would have to comprise, as its two leading features, the Christian Instruction Society and a London Territorial Mission. Under the first department we would have a Christian Instruction Society in connexion with every church, whose work should be to visit the surrounding districts, taking them in small portions, hold cottage prayer-meetings, provide rooms for preaching-stations and places for open-air services, circulate the Scriptures, and hold monthly meetings to receive reports of visitors, and encourage to further efforts." In the department of Territorial Churches the society would necessarily take the initiative, and by the aid of a few good pioneers, and perhaps by means of small iron chapels in the first place plant new interests in destitute localities. To the successful working of a territorial or district mission, the weekly offering necessary, and, indeed, he did not see how they were to sustain their city churches, whose memberships are in the common walks of life, by any other scheme of practical benevolence. The Rev. T. James hoped that the society would take measures to have the report widely circulated. The Rev. J. H. Hinton, Rev. John Kennedy, Rev. J. C. Gallaway, Rev. W. O'Neill, Rev. R. McBrair, Rev. Mr. Marsh, Mr. Allport, Mr. Benjamin Green, Mr. Stabb, and other ministers and gentlemen, spoke strongly in favour of the suggestions contained in the report. Several ministers bore testimony to the practical good already done by the visit in connexion with their own churches. The meeting was of a most harmonious and earnest character, and ended by passing a resolution to revive the operations, and provide for Mr. Wilson's next visit to London.

THE EXETER HALL SERVICES.—On Sunday evening the fourth of the Nonconformist services, designed for the benefit of the working classes, was held at Exeter Hall, the large building being completely filled. The services were conducted by the Rev. John Stoughton, M.A., minister of the Congregational chapel at Kensington. The sermon next Sunday evening will be preached by the Rev. William Landells of Regent's-park Chapel, and the Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel will officiate at the last service, which will be held on Sunday, December 30.

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR THE WORKING CLASSES, IPSWICH.—The series of services originated and arranged by the worthy rector of the parish, the Rev. W. W. Woodhouse, were commenced on Thursday night, in St. Clement's Church, by the Lord Bishop of Norwich. In order that the classes for whom these services are specially designed should have every accommodation, the best pews were reserved for their use, and so widely was the invitation responded to, that not only was the sacred edifice filled in every part, but hundreds had to go away after vainly seeking admission. Prayers were read by the rector; and his Lordship preached a very impressive sermon from Ephesians ii., verse 1—"And you hath he quickened who are dead in trespasses and in sin." The sermon lasted just an hour; but attention never flagged.—*Suffolk Chronicle.*

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—On Tuesday evening, the 8th inst., the fourth of the series of lectures for the present session in connection with the above Association, was delivered at Exeter Hall, by the Rev. George Smith, of Poplar, on "Modern Geographical Researches in Africa." Mr. Henry Tucker presided. The lecturer of course made large reference to Dr. Livingstone's recent discoveries, and to the claims of Africa on the Christianity of England.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, STOCKWELL.—On Friday, 4th December, a large tea-meeting took place at the Stockwell Educational Institute, to commemorate the thirteenth anniversary of the Rev. David Thomas's recognition as pastor of that place. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Walton, Bealby, Smith, Watts, Carlile, and Edwards, &c., &c., from which it appeared that the various benevolent and other societies in connexion with the place were for the most part in a very flourishing condition. After the "Homilist," "Biblical Liturgy," and the many other labours in which Mr. Thomas had been engaged during the last twelve months had been mentioned, the subject of the projected daily journal, the *Dial*, was spoken of. The different speakers, whilst regretting that for a time they were deprived of the valuable ministry of Mr. Thomas, concurred in rejoicing that he was engaged in so great and glorious a work, and expressed their delight at the prosperity which was attending the efforts to start it, and trusted that with the machinery now employed, the new organ of the press would soon commence, that they might be enabled to hail his return to their midst once more.—*From a Correspondent.*

DUXFORD, CAMBRIDGESHIRE. — On Wednesday, December 2nd, the sixty-third anniversary of the Congregational Chapel, Duxford, was celebrated by the congregation. After tea a public meeting was held, the chair being taken by the Rev. Joseph Perkins, minister of the place, who briefly stated the character and object of the meeting, and favourably reported the progress made during the past year. Addresses were then delivered on the following subjects: Nonconformity in 1657, or the Contest of Religion with Ritualism, by the Rev. T. C. Rook, of Thaxted; Nonconformity in 1757, or the Contest of Religion with Indifference, by the Rev. G. Hoyben, of Saffron Walden; Nonconformity in 1857, or the Contest of Religion with State Policy, by the Rev. C. Manthorpe, of Newport, Essex. The attention of the crowded meeting was earnest and unbroken to the end, and this attempt to disseminate right principles on the relation of religion to the state seems to have been most successful in its results. An address was to have preceded on Nonconformity in 1557, or the Contest of Religion with Authority, by the Rev. G. Bunyen, of Linton, but he was prevented being present through illness.

COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON'S CONNEXION, TYLDESLEY.—Rev. J. J. Eastmead, late of Bristol, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the church and congregation worshipping in the chapel of the above-named connexion, and will commence his labours as pastor on the first Sabbath in January.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BATTLE-BRIDGE, PENTONVILLE.—The Rev. T. Seavill, after labouring in Somers Town and this place upwards of nine years, has been compelled through failure of health to resign the pastorate of the Church and retire from the locality.

THE REBELLION IN INDIA.

Since our last number, the regular overland mail has arrived, bringing intelligence from Calcutta to Nov. 9, and from Bombay to Nov. 17. We have received a second letter from our Calcutta correspondent, which, with the one that reached us too late for insertion last week, we give below. Our correspondent records the movements of Sir Colin Campbell, but the Commander-in-Chief himself telegraphed to the Governor-General from Cawnpore, on the 9th of November, just before the mail left, "All right at Lucknow," and immediately crossed the Ganges for Lucknow. It is supposed that he would have about 8,000 men with him at Alumbagh. Captain Peel was at Alumbagh, with a part of the Naval Brigade and some 32-pounders. General Windham was at Cawnpore, in command of the reserve, with instructions to march on Lucknow as soon as he should be joined by two other regiments. Brigadier Grant's column, reinforced at Cawnpore to 5,000 strong, reached Alumbagh without obstruction on the 3rd November, and there awaited the arrival of Sir Colin Campbell. Sir Colin had a numerous artillery force, and it was hoped that soon after the departure of the last mail Lucknow would be in possession of the British troops. The later intelligence, happily, does not confirm the rumours of our correspondent as to the two generals, Havelock and Outram, having been wounded. But it will be recollected that Sir James Outram and *Captain* Havelock were reported as having been wounded when their force first reached Lucknow. This perhaps accounts for the subsequent rumour. The former was wounded in the hand.

A detachment of the 93rd Highlanders and a part of the Naval Brigade, the whole under Col. Powell, found the Dinapore mutineers between them and Cawnpore. A battle ensued on the 1st November, near Futtehpore; the mutineers were completely routed; Colonel Powell was killed; the Highlanders went on to Cawnpore, but the sailors fell back towards Futtehpore. Sir Colin Campbell reached Cawnpore on the 3rd November. On the 9th he telegraphed to Lord Canning.

There had been a fresh outbreak. A portion of the Malwa contingent joined some insurgents at Mehidpore, killed Captain Mills, Lieutenant Casey, Sergeant-Majors O'Connell and Manson, and took the guns of the station. Their triumph was short-lived; a body of the Nizam's cavalry under Major Orr attacked them on the 12th November, routed them, and retook the guns and stores. Saugor had not been relieved, and the officer in command at Jubbulpore urgently demanded aid. Brigadier Stuart had been ordered there from Mhow. The Ghoorkas had twice defeated insurgents in the country eastward of Oude.

The Rohilcund rebels had again advanced towards Nynee Tal, and again taken to flight on finding that the little force from that place was approaching. They were making for Oude.

A column under Brigadier Showers has captured Ahujjur Dadree, Nunoond, and several other places southward of Delhi, securing upwards of 70,000*l.* worth of treasure. Further north, General Van Cortlandt still keeps the country in order. The district between Agra and Meerut is so quiet that the post and passenger carriages run daily between the two places. It is believed that Nana Sahib is in command of the rebels at Lucknow, and that the Dinapore, Gwalior, and Rajpootana rebels were making for Oude. The arrival of the Madras troops at the Kuttra Pass put everything at Rewah into the Political Agent's hands. The Sirdars submitted, and gave up the prisoner whom they had forcibly released. The Rajah expressed extreme regret, and quiet was restored. All quiet in Bombay, with the exception of the Bheels in the Khandeish, who are being put down. A reinforcement of 500 infantry has proceeded from Guzerat to aid General Lawrence.

On Christmas-day another telegram will be due, and will bring some definite news as to the fate of Lucknow.

(From our own Correspondent.)

CALCUTTA, Oct. 31, 1857.

An extra mail having been ordered by the authorities, in consequence of the departure of the *Oriental* to Suez to fetch a regiment overland, an unexpected opportunity occurs of sending you a few items of intelligence which have come in since the regular mail left for England a week ago.

The most stirring of these is the second Battle of Agra, which took place on the 10th of October. You will remember that the mutineers of Scindiah's contingent at Gwalior, after a great deal of indecision and delay, at length crossed the Chumbul, and came down upon Dholepore, a large town about forty miles to the south-west of Agra. They were accompanied by the mutineers of the regiments at Mhow and Indore. Here they obtained several heavy guns, in addition to the seven field-pieces which they had brought from Gwalior. At length they were joined at Dholepore by the Neemuch brigade of Delhi refugees, who had marched from Muttra and passed Agra at a distance of eleven miles. Believing their numbers strong, and their guns efficient, they concerted a plan of attack, which was to secure them entire possession of the Fort of Agra and place all the 6,000 lives it contains entirely at their mercy. In this plan the Mohammedan rioters in the city were to occupy an important place. Spies informed the Fort authorities that they left Dholepore on the 6th of October, and were in full march upon Agra, with all their infantry, cavalry, and guns. The small outpost of Volunteers at Allyguhr, fifty miles away, had already been called in: a happy arrangement for them, for the Muttra refugees a day or two afterwards came down on Hatras in overwhelming numbers and passed onward into Oude. An express was therefore sent to Col. Greathed, who with his flying column had reached Akrabad, forty-four miles from Agra, and had just had his third fight with the rebels, leaving 100 killed upon the ground. As the mutineers approached nearer, and drove in a picket of Volunteers which had reconnoitred them as far as the Kharee, another express, by two officers, went out on the 9th instant and met Col. Greathed at Hatras, 27 miles away, and next morning, to the delight and surprise of all in the fort, at seven o'clock, after a forced march, his entire column crossed the bridge at Agra, and encamped on the parade ground, followed by a baggage train which took three hours to pass over. His force consisted of about 2,800 men of all arms. The Queen's 8th and 75th had only 500 men between them; the 9th Lancers, 300 men; but besides these he had two regiments of Sikh infanty and three of Punjaub cavalry, with twenty-four guns.

The parade ground lies two miles away to the south-west of the fort; the force pitched their camp, and th men breakfasted; some set to work to have a good wash after their march; and others lay down to sleep. On a sudden, at ten o'clock, the entire Gwalior force came down upon them without any warning; having about 5,000 men, of whom 1,500 were cavalry, with fourteen guns. They evidently knew nothing of Col. Greathed's arrival, and believed that they had alighted upon a band of the Fort Volunteers, who had formed an outpost picket to give the authorities warning. They certainly never expected to meet the mass of cavalry which soon came down upon them, as numerous as their own. The first notice which our troops had of their arrival was in the approach of a few men who came and spoke to some of the artillery. They suddenly drew their swords and cut the gunners down. They then rode through the camp, cut down all the men at one of the guns and began to draw the gun off. At the same time a shot was fired into the camp from their artillery, which had been silently brought up to the edge of the parade ground. Then followed another, then another; and round after round was rapidly poured upon our men before they were in readiness to repel such a sudden attack. They were, however, accustomed to alarms. In a moment every one was up, and seized his arms. The two troops of horse artillery, and two field batteries, in the camp, were set in motion by Capt. Pearson, and gave an effective reply to their artillery. Capt. French, at the head of a picket of thirty men of the 9th Lancers, made a brilliant charge upon their horse, re-captured the gun, and drove them off, leaving a large number of

their party dead upon the ground. In this charge Capt. French was killed and Lieut. Jones wounded, as also several of their men. By this time the whole force was ranged in order, and advanced steadily against their assailants. The artillery was in front, and soon had no less than twenty-four guns playing upon them. The enemy, however, found out their mistake, and very soon commenced a retreat. It is reported that when they saw the lancers charging down upon them, they called out, "*Dilhi, ka marnewale aya hy, Ohágo, Ohágo,*" "The victors of Delhi are come, run, run."

None were more thoroughly surprised at the attack on the camp than the dwellers in the fort. In spite of the known advance of the enemy, in spite of the driving in of their own pickets, in spite of their own expresses to Col. Greathed, no one seems to have imagined that the rebels would really attack Agra after all. The column arrived: but none went out to the parade ground to help them, to stand sentry round the camp, and let the weary men and beasts get rest after their long forced march. Things were taken very coolly: the English regiment at Agra, the 3rd Europeans, was ordered out to the parade for two o'clock in the afternoon, but till then the officers and men were all remaining in the fort; and many of the officers of the column had left their men and gone into the fort to breakfast. With the first gun, however, all were roused. The officers mounted their horses and rode off to the parade as fast as they could go. The 3rd Europeans were marched to the help of their comrades. But it was impossible to proceed. The whole line of road between the fort and the cantonments was blocked up with servants, baggage carts, doolies carrying the sick, camp followers and non-combatants, running into the city from the scene of danger. The confusion was indescribable. Several officers most anxious to join were swept back the entire distance to the fort by the disorderly crowd. The European regiments were so delayed, that during the entire day they never came in sight of the enemy.

Meanwhile the attacked column continued steadily to advance, its guns playing fast and effectively upon the retreating foe. The latter retired in order; their cavalry and artillery being well handled, and protecting the infantry in the centre. Our guns were admirably served, and followed them up rapidly. Our men, though wearied by a long march, were most eager in the pursuit. The cavalry, more than 1,500 in number, headed by the lancers, hung on their flanks like a cloud of vultures, and cut off every man within reach. A mile and a half away they came upon a village; a stand was made by the enemy, but without effect; and a huge brass gun, which had been brought to blow in the fort gates, was captured. The Sikh cavalry were very active here, and many of the enemy were killed. From this village their retirement became a rout; and the rebels fled onward without order and without resistance. They were cut down like sheep, scarcely even asking for mercy, or raising a hand in self-defence. About three miles from the parade their camp was found; two miles further the force met their baggage: the carts were all stopped and turned over, and the pursuit continued. Over all this part of the country extends a very thick cultivation; and the corn was growing high; it was, therefore, difficult to see where the enemy were, and to ascertain with exactness the numbers killed by our shot. The pursuit continued till afternoon; and till both parties reached the banks of the Kharree, eight miles from the cantonments. Here Colonel Greathed halted his troops, finding it impossible to do more; the force, including the horses both of the cavalry and artillery, being entirely knocked up by their unusual exertions, But first the artillery drew up on the bank, and poured several destructive rounds of grape into the fugitives on the other side. Five more guns were captured, and many of the rebels killed.

The victory was most complete. The whole of the enemy's artillery was captured, consisting of fourteen guns; of these two were brass 18-pounders; there were our own 9-pounders; the others were brass guns, 12-pounders and under. All their camp and camp equipage, their baggage, carts, and bullocks also fell into our hands. An immense deal of their plunder also was strewed along the road, showing with what vain self-confidence they had advanced against the city. Owing to the crops on the ground, it is impossible to state their loss with exactness. The lowest account reckons 500 killed; some have brought it up to 1,000, with a proportionate number of wounded. Our own loss is slight, being six killed and forty wounded, including Captain French and Lieutenant Jones. Our loss was evidently incurred at the very outset of the engagement. The chief share of the day's exertions fell to the artillery and cavalry, both English and Sikh. Late in the day the whole force returned to camp, utterly exhausted, and the captured guns were lodged within the fort. In this important engagement the mutineers have received a lesson which they will not readily forget.

After a few days' rest, the flying column was reorganised, with a view to march down the Grand Trunk road, to Cawnpore, and join the scanty English bands moving up there for the relief of Lucknow. The 8th and 75th regiments, who have done and suffered so much at Delhi, were left at Agra, and the 3rd Europeans, who have seen no fighting whatever except at outposts, took their place.

The column thus consisted of 500 men, 3rd Europeans; 150 artillery; 300 men, 9th Lancers: with the Sikhs and Goorkhas, infantry and cavalry. Leaving Agra, under the command of Brigadier Hope Grant, of the 9th Lancers, on the 17th of October they marched to Mynpoorie, and reached it on the 20th without opposition. They found the station in ruins, all the bungalows burnt, plundered, and desolate. The little station church has nothing but the bare walls standing; pulpit, desk, chair, windows and doors having been utterly destroyed. The Rajah, who has had his own way since the middle of May, when the 9th Native Infantry mutinied, fled to Futtehguhr a few hours before the column marched in, leaving behind him considerable property, a six-pounder gun, 14,000 lbs. of powder, and 25,000*l.* of money belonging to the East India Company, having been plundered from them in May. The force then marched on to Bewar, at the fork of the Futtehguhr road, where it was said the refugees were going to make a stand; but they found it quite clear. Pushing on rapidly, the telegraph tells us that they reached Cawnpore on Tuesday last, the 27th.

At Cawnpore, a large European force is being gradually gathered for another attack on Lucknow. Before the 7th of Nov. it is reckoned that this force will include 900 men of the 93rd Highlanders; six companies of the 23rd, making 600 men; 600 men of the 82nd; and a body of the 53rd. This will give more than 2,000 English soldiers, to be added to the Agra column; making a larger force than has yet been gathered anywhere except before Delhi itself. The troops are being pushed on as rapidly as possible. From Allahabad they are carried forty-five miles by rail; in this way a portion of Captain Peel's Naval Brigade were sent on to Cawnpore on the 23rd. Between Raneegunje and Benares the journey has been well provided for. Eleven stations have been established, each under a commissariat officer, at which a bazaar is fixed, and food and other comforts are amply provided. At every six miles a sub-station has been established, at which fresh water is kept ready for all who wish it. The system has been fairly set going while but few men were able to march up; and will be quite prepared for the still larger bodies which will be forwarded by the middle of November. Many officers who have passed up have expressed their admiration of the arrangements, and have declared them most efficient. Both at Allahabad and Cawnpore the commissariat department is making great exertions, and has already collected immense supplies of food and baggage animals. The number of elephants, camels, and bullocks at these places is something amazing. Distance, however, is our great difficulty. Before a single man reaches the starting point at Cawnpore, he must travel 120 miles by rail, and 500 miles by carriage or bullock cart. The horse carriages can travel about fifty miles a day; the bullocks only twenty-five, including all stoppages. At present 150 men are going each day: at the end of a fortnight 250 to 300 will be sent on. So long as this clear and dry weather continues, the road will keep in beautiful order; but a day of rain will bring the system to a dead lock, owing to the clayey soil.

Would that we could overcome this great difficulty of distance more rapidly. It seems as if the troops would never reach Cawnpore and give effective aid to our poor besieged friends in Lucknow. It is now more than a month since General Havelock and General Outram, with their 2,000 men, forced their way through the rebel crowds in Lucknow to relieve the beleaguered garrison. They lost a large share of their little band, no less than sixty-six officers and 700 men having been wounded in that single day's contest. It is as large a loss as that which occurred on the taking of Delhi. Letters were sent from the Residency the day after their arrival, announcing their success: but from that time we have received nothing but the merest scraps of intelligence. The rebel troops seem at once to have surrounded them; and to have made the cordon so impenetrable that it seems impossible for friendly natives even to carry the minutes and letters. An officer's note says that from the first the rebels have fired upon them day after day, and sometimes even at night. Others say briefly that half the town is cleared and is under our influence. Others, that the rebels have broken down the iron bridge which crosses the Goomtee, a little to the east of the Residency, and are as numerous as ever. Sixteen regiments, it is said, are concentrated in the city; and as their ammunition has run short, they have made an immense number of bows and poisoned arrows. The Rajah Mán Singh, the greatest landowner in Oude, who could bring 10,000 men into the field, and who was always greatly befriended by the Indian Government in the days of Oude oppression, seems really to have turned against us. He is said to have had his arm broken by a shot during General Havelock's attack on the town; and it is believed that his death would really do much to scatter the rebel force. The last piece of intelligence that has oozed out is very unfavourable. It appears that on the 19th of October, the two generals endeavoured to force their way out of Lucknow again, and thus by a desperate effort free themselves from their blockade. A most murderous street-fight ensued. They were, however, too hard pressed, and were driven back to the Residency.

Meanwhile the little party at Alumbagh, outside the town, seems to be left in quiet. On the 21st 500 men left Cawnpore with a second convoy of provisions, but we have not yet heard of their arrival. Nothing can be more important in the whole country just now, than the relief of the Lucknow garrison. Delhi has been evacuated by the rebels, but they are now overrunning the country, and especially crowding into Oude, their native territory. It now appears that the rebel force which retreated from Delhi to Muttra, consisted of no less than 15,000 men, carrying 2,000 wounded, and attended by a baggage-train containing all their plunder. They completed the bridge of boats at Muttra on the 1st of October, crossed in safety, reached the Grand Trunk road, and marched down it towards Cawnpore. They were quite unmolested, Colonel Greathed's column being full six days' march behind them. They thus got clear away, and turned off across the Ganges into Oude, somewhere near Futtehguhr. The 3,000 who came to Bithoor, and were attacked by Colonel Wilson, are gone to Lucknow. It is said that the Gwalior men after their defeat at Agra have turned in the same direction. Their force is 8,000 strong, and it is feared they will come down upon Cawnpore. Their advanced-guard was at Culpee on the 23rd, forty miles to the south-west of that place. This concentration of the rebels in Oude makes the case of the Lucknow garrison doubly serious, and certainly forebodes a hard campaign during the cold weather. There cannot be less than 40,000 trained rebels there. I hope yet, however, to see Colonel Greathed's column relieve the ladies and children and send them safely to Calcutta. They have already left Cawnpore, and are by this time at Alumbagh. The army will then be left to concentrate all its energies on the pacification of the country. Sir Colin Campbell considers our position on the borders of Oude as exposed to serious danger, and with his staff left town on Tuesday evening, 27th, for Cawnpore, where he will fix his head quarters. He will then have the rebellious province of Bundelkund to the south, and that of Oude to the north; and as all the troops are making for Cawnpore in the first instance, he will be able to form them into brigades and despatch them where they are most needed.

You will have received so much information respecting the capture of Delhi through the Lahore bulletins, which come to us as well as you round by Bombay, that I did not intend to say another word. Every new fact, however, that turns up is so interesting, that I cannot help sending you a few lines from the letters of an officer, who is the Delhi correspondent of the *Calcutta Englishman*, and who has given by far the most graphic description of the details of the siege and final assault on the city. He says that the batteries by which the siege was brought to a close were of the most formidable description—were manned and served with the greatest intrepidity, under a terrible fire from the Sepoys on the walls, who were in some cases only two hundred yards distant; and that they produced the most crushing effects upon the walls and bastions against which they were directed. Crowds of Sepoys manned the walls near the Cashmere and Water Bastions, but were swept away by the deadly fire, and both walls and defences battered to perfect ruin.

The embrasures in these two bastions were blown into breaches by our shot, which smashed, splintered, and ploughed through the battlements and parapets, sent the *gabions*, *fascines*, and sand bags, flying into the air, and reduced everything to a confused heap of *débris*. Not a single gun of the enemy escaped unscathed from our fire, which smashed the muzzles off some, laying open the bore for a foot or more; shattered to atoms the carriages and wheels of others; totally overturned several; and actually, in one case that I remarked, blew a brass nine-pounder clear out of its trunnion-plates, and backwards on its carriage, by *a round shot delivered on its muzzle.*

The entire assault of those six days reflects the highest credit upon the Bengal artillery, by whom the batteries were served: and who have had the honour of leading the attack throughout.

After giving various particulars of the capture of the city, of the steady progress of the besieging force, and of its clearance street by street, he says:—

Nothing now remains but to describe to you the sack and plunder of the unfortunate place, but this human language is utterly incapable of doing. Imagine all the wild men, Sikhs, Affredies, Swats, Beloochees, Mohmunds, Dograhs, Persians, and fifty other tribes who compose our Punjaub regiments, with followers of the same races, or of other savage tribes, let loose into the city, with our soldiers, and an enormous crowd of other plunderers, and you may form some idea of the interior of Delhi yesterday. Men climbing through windows or breaches in the walls of houses; hammers and bars smashing open gates or partitions; muskets opening locks by being discharged into them; the crashing of wood, of chests, of trunks, of boxes, of glass; earthenware, bottles, mirrors, furniture, ornaments, and property of every kind, and the streets strewn with every conceivable species of manufacture, from European carriages down to the smallest article of dress, convenience, or *bijouterie*. Never before was such a sight, and I fancy it is still lively and visible within, and will be till the whole city, shall have been thoroughly raked, torn through, and plundered.

The city has been entirely deserted by its inhabitants: and thus everything has been given up to the capturing army. All plunder is declared by Gen. Wilson to be common property; prize agents have been appointed, and the proceeds will be fairly divided amongst the entire army. It is a subject of great regret that by far the best part of the plunder, whether of European or native property, was carried off by the retreating Sepoys, and has been safely conveyed by them into Oude.

After the taking of the city, and the despatch of Col. Greathed's column on the Agra road, a second column was formed under Brigadier Showers, and despatched into the districts on the south and south-west of Delhi. On the 15th of October, he arrived at Dadree, and took six guns. The Nawab of the place met him on his arrival, and assisted him against the mutineers whom he found. On the 17th, the Cashmere contingent joined

him from Delhi, and the force marched to Jhujjur. Opposition was expected, but the Nawab surrendered: the cantonment was found empty, and twenty-one guns were taken with large supplies of ammunition. On the 20th he took Karoond, killed 400 of the enemy, and captured five lakhs of rupees (50,000*l.*) All these places are petty principalities, ruled under the Indian Government by descendants of the old Moguls or officers of ancient days. Many of them have been very bitter during the rebellion, and guilty of great atrocity towards the few English scattered amongst them. They are, however, now quieting down, and beginning to pay the land-tax once more to the civil authorities. All these provinces of the north-west are now declared to be generally quiet. They looked to Delhi for their cue; and as events occurred there so did they act. From Simla, we hear that since the fall of Delhi, the behaviour of the natives is ludicrously changed, and that every European meets with the profoundest salaams wherever he appears. It was just the same in Agra, after the siege and capture of Bhurtpore by Lord Lake. Natives, when in power, are tyrannical masters, cruel in the extreme; when put down they are cringing sycophants. The scattering of the Delhi rebels, and their departure to Bareilly, to Oude, to Rajpootana, confirm the correctness of the position for which I argued in a previous letter, that it was a great benefit to the country generally that the city was not taken at the outset; but, on the contrary, a great advantage, that the mutineers concentrated there to the great relief of our small communities scattered over the country. By the capture of the city, the contest is transferred elsewhere.

I mentioned some time ago that Major English had attacked the mutineers of the Ramguhr battalion, and defeated them. A day or two since we obtained full particulars of his engagement for the first time, and as it was a gallant affair, you will be glad to receive at least an outline of the despatches. After their mutiny, the Ramghur battalion remained in the hilly country of Behar, lying to the south of Gya, with all their ammunition and plunder; and Major English, who was on his road to Benares, was sent after them. He had under his command a detachment of the 53rd Queen's and the left wing, with a number of Sikhs. He marched cautiously after them to prevent their getting away, and at length found they were plundering the town of Chuttra. He obtained a plan of the town and of the rebel camp, through the excellent intelligence department organised by Captain Smyth. He resolved, therefore, to go round the town to the farther side, to send skirmishers in advance, and then attack with his whole force. A reconnoitreing party of fifty Sikhs, and ten picked men of the 53rd, under Lieut. Daunt, pushed on to the edge of the rice fields near the town, then filed behind some rocks, and made a silent but effective advance towards the camp. On the right, the skirmishers under Captain Fendell pushed straight through the fields, and were soon hotly engaged. Both these parties then joined, rapidly mounted a hill, behind which the town and camp were situated, and rushed on the two guns planted at the brow. One gun fell to Lieutenant Smyth, the other to Lieutenant Daunt. The men then halted, being out of breath; and the rebels, thinking they were afraid, came boldly on and attacked them with two other guns which still remained in their possession. The officers, however, soon turned a gun against them, and beat them off with grape. Major Simpson and a reserve of Sikhs now joined from a side lane; and the whole party rushed into the enemy's camp, silencing a third gun instantly. Pushing forward their right, they captured the fourth gun, which also fell to Lieutenant Daunt. The rebels then fled, leaving forty of their number dead. Our loss was ten killed and thirty-six wounded, some dangerously. The Sikhs had one killed and nine wounded. The whole camp was taken, and with it four guns, with wagons, complete; the colours of the battalion, their camp equipage, forty carts of ammunition, fifty-five barrels of powder, five pigs of lead, 310,000 percussion caps, 204 muskets, thirty-one Sepoys' tents, two officers' tents, ten elephants, sixty artillery bullocks, 50,000 rupees, and finally, one chest of opium! The affair was conducted with skill, and displayed great gallantry and spirit. Officers and men vied with each other in bravery, the former were always at the head of their men, leading them on to action. Several are mentioned with high praise by Major English, and amongst them nine privates and non-commissioned officers: as also two of the Sikhs. It is these little battles that educate our English soldiers for greater fields and victories, which become world-renowned. The same spirit rules through all, and often there is displayed as much heroism in these petty contests as in the Redans and Inkermanns on a larger scale. Fourteen such battles did General Havelock's men fight before he finally led them into Lucknow.

The disorders in the Rewah territory, which threatened the comfort of Mirzapore, have apparently subsided. Through the influence of Kooar Singh, the Rajah's troops became inclined to mutiny, and advanced to occupy the Kuttra Pass, by which the territory is entered from the north. This pass lies about twenty miles south of Mirzapore, and is the first stopping-place on the road to Jubbulpore. It is covered with jungle and celebrated for tigers. A Madras regiment having reached Mirzapore, it was advanced, on the offensive, against the rebels: they retired; and the Madrasees then occupied the pass, and have fortified themselves in full possession. This decided step, which places the Rewah territory at our command, has had immediate effect: the disorderly have left; the Zemindars have thrown themselves on the mercy of the Government, and the place has again become quiet.

The territory to the north of Benares is much exposed to attacks from Oude, and now and then some of its swarms of rebels cross into the Company's territory. About the 20th of October a large force came down upon Jaunpore, where some of the Nepalese troops, the Goorkhas, are stationed. A spirited fight took place, in which the few English officers greatly distinguished themselves; and the Goorkhas entered into a most determined hand to hand contest. They prefer fighting with their *kookries*, most formidable knives or hatchets, with which they inflict terrible blows. Our loss was seven wounded. The enemy left 250 dead, and six standards were taken. Goruckpore, to the north-east of Jaunpore, was taken by some local rebels about three months ago. It is now to be re-occupied: a force, consisting of 200 men of H.M. 10th Regiment, with 180 Madrasees and two guns, has gone up from Dinapore for the purpose, and is now marching on the place from Benares. These posts will help to keep in check the Oude rebels when the large armies necessary for the reconquest of the territory begin their work.

Nearer Calcutta we have had only a little to do with mutiny. A short time ago two companies of the 32nd Native Infantry in the Sonthal Hills mutinied and murdered their officers and the Assistant-Commissioner. Two other companies mutinied at Rampore Haut, but did no harm to the railway engineers who were in a tower of refuge. These men have all gone to the westward, burning and plundering wherever they go. Several native money-lenders have been plundered by them. In fear respecting the rest of the regiment, the Commander-in-Chief ordered it to be marched to Raneegunje, where it arrived a week ago. The men were in perfect order, and displayed no signs of mutiny. Of their own accord they piled their arms before Colonel Burney's tent, and remained unarmed. Virtuous as this conduct appears, people will say that it was adopted in consequence of the presence of about 1,000 English soldiers and 250 men of the Bengal Yeomanry Cavalry, who had just arrived. Be this as it may, the rail has since brought them to Calcutta. It is believed that Major English, with his valiant band, and Captain Rattray, with his Sikh police, are both on the look out for the mutineers of the regiment, who are going towards the Soane. The former nearly caught them a few days ago at Jehanabad, between Gya and Shergotty.

Very few men of the English regiments have reached us during the last ten days. I mentioned the arrival of the *Sydney* (St. S.) in sixty-nine days from Spithead, with 450 of the artillery. Since then the *Bucephalus*, with 221 men, 35th; the *Ulysses*, with 318 of the 88th, and the *Surrey*, with 369 men of the 88th have also come in. These are all sailing ships, and have made passages of not less than a hundred days each, a common thing at this time of year. If the steamers would come in soon, the arrival of the ships will not much matter; as the men will only be kept waiting in Calcutta or at Raneegunje, before they can be forwarded to Allahabad.

A Bengal Patriotic Fund has just been formed, with a view to make immediate provision for the wives and children of the men who may fall in the present campaign. On Sunday last, the 25th October, Dr. Duff preached a sermon on its behalf in the Free Church. It is very rarely that Dr. Duff is able to conduct a public service, his shattered health leading him to confine his exertions more to private quiet business, that he is able to conduct at home. His influence, however, is very powerfully felt in many quarters, not only in behalf of the Free Church Mission, but of the kingdom of Christ generally. When he does preach, his instructions are delivered with such beauty, eloquence and fervour, that in this dull place it is universally considered a treat to hear him. On the present occasion the church was crammed with a congregation of more than 1,200 people. The aisles were all occupied. Many stood during the whole service, and large numbers went away. The sermon occupied in delivery a full hour and a quarter, and was listened to with profound attention. Dr. Duff selected six texts as the basis of his discourse. "The inquity of the Amorites is not yet full." "I will recompense, even recompense into their bosom." "Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers . . . that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the land," &c. "He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity." "Woe to thee that spoilest, and thou wast not spoiled . . . when thou shalt cease to spoil thou shalt be spoiled; and when thou shalt make an end to deal treacherously, they shall deal treacherously with thee." In all these passages lies a great principle, with others clustering round it. That nations are treated by God as individuals: they grow up, acquire a certain character, adopt certain courses of conduct: one generation may take up its principles of action from another, may share the fruits of those principles, and themselves apply them, not perhaps in the same way, but in a mode suited to the current age. Where those principles are evil, punishment will assuredly fall, and the sons will be visited with the full fruits of their fathers' crimes, when those crimes have reached their full measure. He showed how this was especially the case with the Jews, and how we ought to read all history by the light of those principles which are drawn from the only inspired history we have. He then described at length the purpose for which God had raised up England, so small in territory and in population, to such a lofty place among the nations, showing that when it has been thoroughly Protestant and religious it has prospered; when it has tampered with truth, as under the Stuarts, or has been unjust in its dealings, it has immediately suffered. He rapidly reviewed the early history of the English in Bengal, and in crushing terms laid bare the greedy avarice, the rapacity, the extortion, the cruel oppression with which the natives were ground down. He showed how, while rebuking the extension of the empire by their servants, the Directors gladly availed themselves of the appointments which that extension threw into their hands. Now the House of Commons, after gathering the most fearful evidences of their oppression by the committee on Clive's administration, failed to punish a single man among those who had been guilty; and thus connived at their conduct. All this might be changed now in form; the age will not allow such things; but the same spirit might prevail, and work out its own consequences in a manner ruled by the present times. For all this God had visited us in the severest judgment, with a heavy hand, and the only hope of deliverance was to be found in a true repentance, which should acknowledge frankly the errors of the past, take up a new spirit for the future, and should bring forth the holy fruits of justice, mercy, uprightness in all our dealings, allow no tampering with caste, and with idol temples; but honour God, and benefit man. The collection amounted to 1,600 rupees, given mostly by those whose names will not appear in subscription lists. I have been glad to hear that the sermon has called forth many remarks. Civilians and others who were present, did not feel overpleased with the accusations against the Government. A likely result; for hundreds of officers in both departments of Government are the grandsons and great-grandsons ("the third and fourth generation") of the very men by whom all these oppressions were committed. Hundreds of East Indian families all over the country are evidence of the vices for which those times were notorious. One thing is quite certain, if the sermon were published, the *printer would be liable to punishment under the Gagging Act!* So sunk are we in India.

CALCUTTA, *Nov. 9, 1857.*

The old topics still continue to recur, as by means of private letters we gradually attain complete information concerning the details of events that have occurred. We have just received a few more particulars respecting the capture of the King and his sons at Delhi. It appears that on the evening of the 21st of September, Captain Hodson went out with a party of irregular cavalry on the south side of the city towards the Kutab Minar. At the tomb of Kumayon he made prisoner the old King and one of his ladies. He is described as a wretched, cowardly, idiotic old man, very decrepid and very frightened. Breaking through all the orders of the Governor-General, who had forbidden that any promise of any kind should be made to him or to his family, Captain Hodson promised that his life should be spared. He was put into a dilapidated, green palankin, the Queen into another, and both were carried into the city. He thought to go into the palace again, and to be made as comfortable as he was in the days when Captain Douglas and Mr. Fraser, Mr. Jennings and his daughter, resided near him in quiet and security. But General Wilson packed him off at once, and ordered him to be taken to some dirty, damaged house in the Chandai-Chouk, and to have a sergeant's guard placed over him. An eye-witness writing to Simla declares that while there an Irish soldier, who had vowed that he would kill the King during the storm of the palace, if he could find him, rushed past the sentries and began to belabour the unfortunate and guilty monarch with his fists, saying, "Take that, and that, and that, you pig;" and was obliged to be dragged off by his comrades. The outrage on the wretched decrepid prisoner was a very sad one, and to a reasonable man, utterly unjustifiable; but our men are scarcely reasonable just now, when they come across Sepoys, and the authors of those frightful atrocities which have never till now been inflicted on our countrywomen, even in the darkest pages of our history.

The three princes were seized next day by the same officer. Finding that the king had been preserved they hoped for similar leniency towards themselves. With an innocent sort of look they asked Capt. Hodson,—"Sahib, what are your orders?" To their astonishment he told them, "Strip." Their embroidered and jewelled dresses were torn off by the troopers, while they begged and prayed in abject terms for life, and there Capt. Hodson shot them with his own hand. Their bodies were brought into the city on a common cart, in charge of sweepers, were thrown on the ground in front of the Kotwali (the police office), and left (as they had left our countrymen) to be devoured by the city dogs! No men ever more richly deserved the most ignominious fate. We now hear that these princes have all along been at the very head of the insurrection. Mirza was the commander-in-chief, though (as your own columns have shown) he was laughed at for his absurd and ignorant orders. Khizur Sultan was commander of a brigade, and the grandson, Abu Bukkur, was commander of the cavalry. They were chief in inflicting cruelty and slaughter upon our poor countrymen. It is

said that as they sat in their gilded chairs, a number of the captives were brought before them by the Sepoys for orders as to their fate: sitting at their ease, they first fired upon the victims with their fowling-pieces for their own amusement, and then left the devils' work of murder to be finished by the fiends around them! Such are Orientals. When under control, they cringe and crouch in the meanest degradation. When they get the upper hand, they revel in cruelty: mercy disappears; and with fiendish delight they will torture the very man before whom they cringed in cowardly meanness. It is an awful thing when God allows such men to have their way: and when, instead of restraining their wrath, he lets it loose to show the world the dread spectacle of what that wrath can do. Had he not restrained it during the long course of the past, the Asiatic races would have been extinct long ago. "The mild Hindoo!" You know the truth now.

Another son and two nephews of the King have since been caught, and were to be placed upon trial. They have also seized a European, the sergeant-major of the 28th, the regiment which mutinied at Shahjehanpore. It seems doubtful whether he was kept a prisoner by the rebels, or was really a leader among them. I fear the latter is the truth: at all events he was seized, trying to make his escape. That unprincipled men amongst our countrymen should do such things is by no means impossible. During the siege of Sevastopol how many went over of their own will to the Russians. And in former times in India how many cashiered officers have been found on the side of the enemy. It seems that one such at least was killed at an early stage of the siege of Delhi. The *Friend of India* condemns in very severe terms the conduct of Captain Hodson in promising the King his life. "Let it suffice for him to know that his act has weakened the effect of a great victory: that he has exposed his countrymen to the risk of another revolt; that he has undone in an hour the effect of three months of toil and suffering and blood, England will pass a sentence on him more terrible than any the Government is able to inflict, and to all time to come he will be remembered in India as the man who arrested justice when the fate of millions hung on its execution." Nothing could have read the mutineers a sterner lesson as to what the Government will do in future cases of atrocity like this, than the public execution in his own city of the King who permitted them to take place.

The last news from Delhi is sad. The force is suffering greatly from sickness. September and October you know are our fever months, owing to the drying up of swamps after the heavy rains. We now hear that on the day of assault there were no less than 3,000 men in hospital. A thousand were added during the capture of the city; so that the medical staff, several of whom are involved in the trouble, are all overworked, and it will be well if the invalids can be removed to a more open and healthy locality. A letter from Simla says that no less than fifty-five officers are up there suffering from their Delhi wounds. May they all get promotion and prize-money for their gallant deeds. General Wilson himself has been obliged to leave the city, and has resigned his command to General Penny, who bears a high character as an active and efficient officer. The plunder has been gradually collected: private looting is not allowed, and piles of brass pots and plates at the various gates attest the vigilance of the sentries who allow nothing to be carried out of the city. The inhabitants have entirely left, and only the English force remains.

Colonel Showers' force still continues among the small principalities to the west of Delhi, taking forts and seizing guns. After getting possession of Jhujgur a part of the force went to Kunoord, which they summoned to surrender. The fort was at once given up: eighteen guns taken, and treasure also to the value of 50,000*l*. The Sepoys fled, but were partially destroyed by Captain Hodson's cavalry. This morning the Delhi despatches have been published in Calcutta for the first time. They contain nothing beyond what I have already told you, except the list of the gallant men to whose daring, coolness, and bravery the Commander draws the attention of the Government and of their grateful countrymen.

The fugitives from Delhi, whose flight from Muttra towards Oude I described in my last letter, did not leave Futtehguhr untaxed on their passage. It is said that they plundered it of twenty-four lakhs of rupees (240,000*l*.) Of course an army of 15,000 men had the power to work their will upon the poor defenceless city; and it is no wonder that such a set of scoundrels did their best. Furruckabad (the civil station of which is called Futtehguhr) is a very fine old city, walled and divided by gates and cross walls into several sections. It has a large population, and carries on considerable trade. Several European houses had been established there. Mr. Brierley's tent factory, Mr. Ive's factory, Indigo factories, and the like, were all prospering, in addition to the large establishment of the American mission. The native bankers and capitalists also were numerous and wealthy. The Nawab, who seized the place on the outbreak of the 10th Regiment, and who hired the 41st from Seetapore in Oude, has ruled this city since the end of May. Three times has the fellow laid a forced loan upon the native capitalists; and now above these has come the grand plunder of the city by the Delhi rebels. Poor people! how earnestly will they long for the return of that quiet civil rule under which their trade was carried on in perfect security. What a lesson have they received from this rebellion that a native yoke is infinitely harder to bear than that of the Company. One would think that these men would be wise enough to see the advantage of conciliating their own countrymen, and exhibiting a little difference between them and the English. But no! they only want present gain and present power, and they have not foresight enough to perceive that three months will bring it all to an end, and leave them in depths of poverty and shame in which they never were before. *The mild Hindoo!* The natives themselves are learning the truth now.

Kooar Singh has been doing just the same in Bundelkund. He has, you will remember, in his force, the 7th, 8th, and 40th regiments of Bengal mutineers from Dinapore, the 50th from Nagode, part of the 31st from Jubbulpore, and a great number of scoundrels from the whole country. I pointed out to you how his conduct produced two great circles of rebellion, Oude and Bundelkund, and how the Grand Trunk road, from Allahabad to Cawnpore, runs right between them. It now appears that all Kooar Singh's men are abandoning Bundelkund, where there is not much to be got, and are making across country for Oude. The Nawab of Banda has paid them no wages, whether from poverty or obedience to the Government is not known; and as they can't live, they have resolved to return to their own province. They have come away in several parties, plundering all the villages as they go along. They crossed the Jumna at Culpee (forty-eight miles from Cawnpore), and at other Ghâts below it; and we understand that the whole body are now in the Doab, between the Ganges and the Jumna. Of course they may come down on Cawnpore, or Futtehpore, or Allahabad, and with the cloud of rebels in Oude to back them, our little army up there is in anything but a safe position. Their dauntless front, their intense determination never to be beaten, and, on the other hand, the craven cowardice of the rebels in all open fields, are the great guarantee for their safety. Their numbers are utterly insignificant. The Gwalior force of 8,000 men, whose arrival at Culpee I noticed in my last, are not the remains of the force so terribly defeated by Colonel Greathed at Agra, but they are the Gwalior contingent itself, who after dilly-dallying for some time with Scindiah, their Mahárajà, and attempting in vain to make him lead them against the English, have left him altogether, and gone like all the rest towards Oude. "Wheresoever the carcase is, there will the vultures be gathered together." Beaten out of towns and cities, and open country, living on plunder, jealous of each other, without recognised leaders who *will* be obeyed, the whole cloud of them are drifting into their own country. Cawnpore, Futtehpore, and Allahabad, are of course menaced. For the last there is no fear, with its fort, external intrenchments, and gigantic heaps of stores. Cawnpore, too, seems so well held by Colonel Wilson, that there is little fear for its safety. The danger is to the small parties going up as reinforcements between the two places, and as I will mention, it has happened in two or three instances.

The Commander-in-Chief seems to have comprehended the situation at once, and resolved to get into the thick of it. He left Calcutta, with a small retinue, in two or three of our regular dâk carriages. Leaving Raneegunje, he passed through many bodies of troops moving up to Allahabad to join the Cawnpore force, and reached Shergotty in safety. Some miles beyond this town, and before reaching the Soane, all of a sudden he came upon the Deoguhr mutineers of the 32nd, who had (as I told you) evaded Major English, and were moving towards the Soane also. They were mounted on fourteen elephants, belonging to the regiment, and were accompanied by about five-and-twenty native horsemen. The Sowars for a time hung about the little party, who thought it best to turn back, in order to join a detachment of 150 men whom they had passed seven miles in the rear. They reached them in safety, but really they had a very narrow escape, and the party all crossed the Soane together. General Windham was following a day behind, and got intelligence of the same body of rebels. It appears that they have now quitted the road, and retired to the Soane jungles to the south, where Ameer Singh is holding the hill-fort of Rhotas-guhr.

Having reached Allahabad in safety, and pushing on, Sir Colin Campbell had a second narrow escape from Kooar Singh's bands, near Futtehpore: two lines of telegraph inform us that there a party of the 93rd Highlanders was attacked, apparently while he was with them, or at least close by. Three days before, Captain Peel was leading up his Naval Brigade to Cawnpore, with a party of the 53rd, 500 men, under Colonel Powell. Near Futtehpore they heard that a camp of the enemy had been formed at Bindkee, a few miles off the road, and the whole party, with *two* nine-pounder guns, went to attack them. They found the rebels prepared, and in full dress; however, they attacked them without delay, took two guns complete, destroyed their camp, and dispersed them. They then returned to Futtehpore, resumed their march, and entered Cawnpore two days after. Colonel Powell was unfortunately killed in the attack, and was buried at Bindkee.

Among the rebels swarming in this part of the country is a man named Janher Singh, a nephew of some Golab Singh at Lahar in Bundelkund. A report flew down to Calcutta that Juwahir Singh, nephew of the real Golab Singh of Lahore and Cashmere, had come down with thirty regiments, and was only twelve miles from Cawnpore. You will see, from the similarity of names, how easily rumour mixed up the two parties. Juwahir Singh, in Cashmere, has neither troops nor influence, and his cousin, Runbeer Singh, who now rules Cashmere in place of Golab Singh, deceased, sent all his troops to Delhi, where they rendered good service in the assault, and have since accompanied Brigadier Showers on his visit to the neighbourhood. Jauher Singh (Bundeli) is, however, a veritable personage, and has a body of rebels with him at Chowbeespore, twelve miles from Cawnpore.

Alas! for Lucknow! As the efforts for its deliverance increase, so multiply the numbers and strength of the mutineers who are striving to destroy the garrison. The contest must be going on at this hour: they must be in the very thick of it, and yet we can't say what will be the end. The Governor-General has detained the mail one day, with a view to send it home if possible by the present steamer: and I hope it will go through the official channels, though we may not know it. We have continued to hear that General Outram's party were safe in the Residency and Balee Guard; and at last we have received the list of those officers who were killed and wounded on Sept. 27, when Havelock forced his way in. You will of course publish it. Eighteen officers were killed in the attack; twenty wounded, and eight others wounded severely. Since then, three officers have been killed, seven wounded, and four others wounded severely. It appears that there is great doubt about the murderous street fight which is said to have been fought on the 19th Oct.; it is believed that it is a different version of the original attack nearly a month before: several officers named in it as wounded, were really wounded on Sept. 27: amongst them General Outram and Lieutenant Havelock. Every exertion is being made to secure an effective and complete deliverance. Sir Colin Campbell has himself arrived at Alumbagh, and takes command of all the troops gathered for the purpose. He has formed a most ingenious plan for getting the beleaguered garrison out, and we are hoping it will be entirely successful.

The troops collected at Alumbagh constitute a powerful body, with all arms—infantry, cavalry, and artillery. First, Major Baraston reached that place with 500 men, escorting the second convoy of provisions, ammunition, and stores. Then followed Brigadier Hope Grant with the flying column from Agra. It is said by a Cawnpore letter to have been thus composed:—

Artillery	391	men.
9th Lancers	250	,,
Engineers	206	,,
93rd Regiment	382	,,
75th	349	,,
5th	92	,,
8th	327	,,
53rd	156	,,
Total	2153	Eng.
Punjaub Cavalry	361	
Punjaub Infantry	1003	
Total	3517	

The 500 Europeans or more at Alumbagh would be added; and other detachments are following fast. 1,500 men, including Captain Peel's brigade, have ere this reached Cawnpore; while two regiments of Madras soldiers have entered Allahabad in the rear. The column crossed the Ganges into Oude on Saturday October 31st, and started next day. A few miles from Alumbagh they halted for Sir Colin Campbell, who reached Cawnpore, Tuesday, Nov. 3rd, and would easily catch them up in twelve hours, now that the road is clear. Other troops have since pressed on to join them; and a third convoy, including 2,500 camels and 250 carts, has also been forwarded to the same destination. They must all have arrived about Thursday last, Nov. 5th, and doubtless then formed a real Gunpowder plot, for attacking the rebel crowd that surround our countrymen like a bristling wall, and bringing them forth in safety. The telegraph has been reconstructed as far as Alumbagh, and if it is not cut between Allahabad and Cawnpore (as it may be in fifty places) we shall get intelligence at once. But with men numbers of things are not possible. To the 20,000 disciplined men formerly in Oude, few of whom went away to Delhi, have now been added 1,500 fugitives from that city, 8,000 rebels from Gwalior, and 5,000 from Bundelkund, with crowds of scoundrels and feudal retainers of the great Oude lords, concentrated on Lucknow, and by force putting all money, stores, and grain into requisition to crush that little garrison. What a marvellous sight! Yet I don't think there is one afraid. Again may we well say, "Give them help from trouble; vain is the help of man." "Not unto us! not unto us! but unto thy name give glory."

On the borders of Oude, above Jaunpore, the Goorkha troops of Nepál have again had a fight with the rebels. Five thousand of them came down, to some place called Chanda, a few miles west of Jaunpore, with seven guns. After a furious cannonade, followed by a steady advance, the Goorkhas, under Colonel Wroughton, only 1,200 in number, rushed on the enemy, captured four guns, and killed 500 men. They have always shown themselves to be a spirited, courageous people, and it is a pleasure to find that all the native of Hindostan are not cowards.

Some time ago, one of the great bankers of Benares, Bhyrub Persád, a grandson of the celebrated millionaire, Putnee Mul, was found to be maintaining a traitorous

correspondence with the Oude rebels. In spite of his position and his offers of "recompense," he has been hanged, together with his treasurer, and eight of his letter-carriers. It is to be hoped that this act of decision will teach the Hindoos of Benares a lesson that they will not soon forget.

Below Benares, Behar has been again unsettled by the passage from east to west of the 400 men who mutinied in the Sontál Hills. The first batch eluded Major English at Gya, came across the Commander-in-Chief, and are gone to Rhotás. Whether the others have done the same and left the country clear, seems doubtful. For all items of intelligence we are dependent upon chance letters, and scarcely learn any thing from the Government. One thing, however, is clear, Mr. Samuells's appointment as Commissioner, with a special view of courting the Mohammedans of Patna and Dinapore, has been a great failure. Mr. William Taylor, the former Commissioner, seized them, took security from them, put a few in jail, and hanged others. The budmashes all left the city in a fright: and for once Patna was positively quiet. Even when the green flag was hoisted and Dr. Lyell, the opium agent, killed, Mr. Taylor kept the city down. Mr. Samuells arrived, the Mohammedans were courted both by him and his assistant, Ameer Ali: the budmashes returned, the gentry began again to plot; Ameer Ali returned to Calcutta, and *then*, how was his fidelity and that of his compeers exhibited? All the traitorous correspondence which Mr. Taylor had seized, and which involves many of the Mohammedan gentry of Behar, *has just been stolen from Mr. Samuells's office*. He on the other hand has just published a long defence of his own appointment and that of Ameer Ali, the chief points of which are that Mr. Taylor was too severe, the Mohammedan gentry are exceedingly loyal, amiable and peaceably disposed, and Ameer Ali as obedient and angelic a subject of the Government as may be found near the Bay of Bengal. The answer to this is, that since the panegyric was written, these very gentlemen who abound in the Commissioner's office, have stolen all the treasonable letters! When shall we have "a change of ministry," composed of men who will really learn from the lessons of the present awful year, and will believe that treason can really lurk in the black hearts of men who profess to be obedient, and, where they can, openly rebel. Our civilians are in many respect like the Bourbons, they learn nothing, and forgive nothing, to that large class of outsiders who are striving to get their voice heard in the calamities from which they have so deeply suffered.

Near Raneegunje, the Shikawati Battalion have reached Chhota Nagpore, and encamped at Chyabassa, among the Coles. Captain Dalton is at Ranchi, and is daily occupied in trying and hanging the mutineers of the Ramghur Battalion, who have been captured by Major English and others. The Rajah of Porohaut has been taken, and his jaghire, of more than a thousand square miles, confiscated for his treason. I don't think that from Agra downwards I have anything else to tell you as having occurred in these mutinous districts during the past ten days.

A crowd of vessels, chiefly steamers, has just come in. You will find the list of ships, dates, and men, complete in the *Englishman*, and will of course copy it entire. The 42nd Highlanders, with bonnet and plume; the Rifle Brigade, in their dark green uniform, are all gazed upon with wonder by the people, and numbers of young people, born in the country, run off to the kirk on the Sunday, to see the former crowding the front gallery during divine service. I forget whether I told you that the Rev. R. Henderson, the excellent junior chaplain of the kirk, has gone off as chaplain to the 93rd; and the Rev. Thomas Smith, of the Free Church, has been appointed by Government chaplain to the 42nd. These men, many of whom are Free Churchmen, will thus have their spiritual interests and their bodily comforts too watched over, while they fight battles on our behalf. May the measure prove a lasting benefit to them all.

INDIA REFORM.

A public meeting was held on Wednesday evening at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to consider the policy of continuing the present irresponsible government of India. The chair was taken by Mr. C. Gilpin, M.P.; and there were present on the platform the Marquis of Clanricarde, Sir Erskine Perry, M.P., Lord F. Cunningham, M.P., Mr. Henry Pease, M.P., Mr. J. B. Smith, M.P., Mr. J. A. Wise, M.P., Viscount Byng, M.P., Colonel French, Mr. L. L. Dillwyn, M.P., Mr. F. Crossley, M.P., Mr. Hadfield, M.P., Mr. O'Brien, M.P., and Messrs. John Richardson, O. T. Otway, W. Ramsay, J. Morland, Alderman Wire, &c. The large room was crowded to excess, and the proceedings throughout were conducted with a unanimity of feeling that showed that the subject of India and its future government had excited a deep interest in the minds of the public.

The CHAIRMAN said it would be difficult to exaggerate the importance of the subject which they had been called together to discuss. The interests of nearly 200,000,000 of the human race, all of whom were their fellow-subjects, were intimately bound up with the government of India. It was, he need scarcely say, no new thing to hear complaints of the misgovernment of India. But whenever any endeavour had been made to press the subject on the attention of the Legislature it had always been evaded, till it had at length become a byword that an Indian debate always emptied the benches of the House of Commons. But the country had at length been awakened from their slumber. Tidings had reached them of terrible calamities having been inflicted on their fellow-countrymen in India—of cruelties unspeakable having been perpetrated upon Englishmen and Englishwomen, by the sudden revolt of the native army, and the question forced upon the minds of the people of this country was, what was the cause of this revolt? This was a question to be inquired into. Meanwhile he begged to say that he was an advocate for the principle that the Government of India should be directly responsible to Parliament and the English people, and that it should not be conducted merely for the benefit of the few. Whatever, therefore, stood in the way of the good government of India, even if it were the East India Company itself, he would say let it be at once swept away. He believed it would be found that the immediate cause of the insurrection in India was the annexation of Oude. That was the climax of the policy which had been too long pursued by the Government of India, and which had ended in the dreadful outbreak they all deplored. The great cause of the rebellion in India was the gross misgovernment of that country. In 1848 the present Chairman of the East India Company stated that out of a revenue of 300,000,000*l.* only 1,400,000*l.* was expended in the making of roads and executing public works. If England desired to retain India she must expend the revenue derived from it for the benefit of India.

Mr. PHILLIMORE (late member for Leominster), in moving the following resolution—

> That the present rebellion and the previous complaints in India—complaints of all ranks and conditions of men except those who profited by the monopoly of patronage—move that the system of the so-called "double government" has excited the general hatred and disaffection of its subjects, and has nearly occasioned the loss of our Indian empire; and, therefore, that it is expedient that the "double government" should cease; that no farmers or trustees of India should any longer stand between the complaints of the people and the power and justice of the Crown; and that the supremacy of the Queen and Parliament alone should henceforth be recognised in India, as it is in every other part of the British dominions—

said he had no intention to make any attack upon the present Ministry. It was the system which he assailed—a system that must be shaken off. He yielded to no man in his abhorrence for the outrages that had been committed on Englishmen and Englishwomen, and in a desire that justice should overtake their perpetrators, but he need not remind them that the thing most opposite to justice was indiscriminate revenge. (Cheers.) He thought it was the duty of the Government to lose no time in taking from the East India Directors all authority in the government of India. He was most anxious that the advice of the wisest statesmen—of Burke, Fox, Grenville—should at last be acted upon. There were many reasons why the people of India should be hostile to the British rule. The pay of the Sepoys had been reduced, the right of adoption had been taken from them, and they had carried the system of robbery which by the modern euphonism was called annexation, to such an extent as to excite suspicion and distrust in the mind of every person in India. In a debate on the subject of India he, when a member of that house, said that the annexation of Oude would entail consequences on this country which the youngest man among them would have to regret. They had extorted from Oude 50,000,000*l.* of money, and then a complaint was made that the King refused to impose taxes upon his subjects. The system of taxation adopted by the East India Company set all the principles of political economy at defiance.

Mr. MIALL said he supposed the time had now arrived when they might be permitted to speak of the government of India as a double government without subjecting themselves to the charge of utter ignorance in relation to Indian affairs (cheers and laughter). Three months ago they did not enjoy that privilege, or, at any rate, they could not exercise it without danger of being smartly rapped on the knuckles by the leading organ of public opinion in this country (laughter); and he was free to confess that such was the anomalous construction of the Government of India that it was hard to point out what a man might not say of it which should not at one and the same time be both right and wrong. It was a treble government in one of its aspects, it was a double government in another, it was a single government in a third. Where the responsibility rested it was impossible to say with any certainty. Now it was here, now it was there, but never where they wanted to fasten upon it a charge of wrong doing. (Hear, hear.) Like the pea of a thimble-rigger, it easily eluded the most practical eye. (A laugh.) Perhaps, however, they would not be far wrong if they were to say of it that as to all the ends of obstruction to a wise and beneficent policy it was a double government, whilst for all the purposes of a pernicious policy it was a single one. The Court of Directors were powerful to hinder the development of good, but they were powerless to prevent the perpetration of mischief. They were themselves without responsibility to any party, and hence it was, perhaps, that whenever blame had to be borne it was invariably shifted to their shoulders. They acted as buffers to the Board of Control (laughter and cheers), and served to break the force of any charge which public indignation required to be investigated and met. They were a convenient screen from behind which the minister, himself unseen by the public, might pull the wires by which he moved his puppets. (Cheers.) More sinned against than sinning in many respects, they had to play Uncle Sam to every wild freak of every ignorant, inexperienced, and sometimes ambitious President, and were called upon to pay the piper for the very tricks which ruined them. (Cheers.) It was time that for their own sakes, as well as for the sake of India, they were dismissed the public service. The real government of India was already in the Crown—there could be no mistake about that. (Hear, hear.) Then why not the ostensible also? For his part, he could not conceive of a more dangerous position in which for a ruler to be placed, than to be able to wield despotic power, but to be under no necessity of wielding it under the vigilant eye of the public—to hold in his hand the destiny of millions without, on the one hand, being kept in control by any personal fear of their discontent, or, on the other, being directly responsible to that less dangerous but more influential public opinion to which civilisation and Christianity have given birth. (Cheers.) Yet this was the position in which by the contrivance of the system of double government we had placed the real rulers of India. Too far off to hear the mutterings of the misgoverned, and too carefully concealed from the public to provoke the impeachment of the enlightened, it appeared to him that our Presidents of the Board of Control had done pretty much as they pleased, as the Affghan war, and the annexation of Oude bore ample testimony. It was of this state of things that the British public were thoroughly surfeited. (Loud cheers.) The military insurrection which had involved our countrymen and countrywomen in India in such unspeakable disaster, which had wrapped the whole empire, as it were, in massacre and flames, and which seemed to be looked upon by all the ruling authorities of that land as one of the Asian mysteries, had wakened up in British hearts at home the only instinctively true and common sense response. There was no mistaking what the public meant, nor what was the strength of their determination. If they called for the immediate abolition of the Court of Directors it was not in order to gratify a spirit of blind or malignant vindictiveness. They were anxious only to clear the way to a real, direct, and tangible responsibility. (Hear, hear.) They were resolved to get rid of the Company, that they might get at the minister. (Cheers.) The cry against the Company was after all nothing more nor less than a cry to the minister to come forth from his dark hiding place, and do his work, as every honest man should, in the light of day. (Loud cheers.) This was the true interpretation of the general outburst of feeling against the double government. They wanted somebody upon whom, without doing an injustice, they might put their finger when misdeeds were done, and ask him "How is this?" and say to him "Thou art the man from whom we shall exact an account." Yes! matters had become far too serious for them to allow any further continuance of a system of hocus pocus. (Cheers and laughter.) They had been hood-winked and befooled long enough. They must now look into their Indian affairs for themselves, and it was for this reason that they said to the Court of Directors, and were about to call upon Parliament to say so with effect, "Stand out of the light once for all, and let us see what is being done in our name in the fairest and most extensive of our eastern possessions." (Much cheering.) Speaking for himself and on his own responsibility, and disclaiming any intention of involving others in his opinions, he would confess that in seeking the abolition of the double government, he was desirous of securing something besides the direct responsibility of the minister. He wanted to supersede a traditional policy by one more likely to develop the capabilities of India, moral as well as physical. He was anxious to see a change of tone in the whole administration, and that could never be realised whilst the Court of Directors remained. He could not but think that Government might be carried on there with somewhat higher views than those which took their origin in commercial cupidity and exclusive privilege. (Hear, hear.) He would like to observe less jealousy of European residence and enterprise (cheers) and less complacency to Mohammedan intolerance and Brahminical pretensions. He wished a system of administration which would not regard the exaction of revenue as its chief if not its sole object (Hear.)—a policy which would seek an increase of its means, not in the deposition of native princes, nor in the confiscation of native estates, but in a careful and assiduous development of the immense resources of that country. He desired that the public income should be raised by some less questionable means than Government monopolies of opium and salt. (Loud cheers.) He wanted to see an administration which would not lavish the greater part of its means upon an overgrown and constantly mutinous army, and which would be able to afford an adequate number of courts of justice, and an adequate force of well-organised and efficient police. He was anxious for a sound system of land tenure, and a reliable protection of life, liberty, and industry. He wanted a less extravagantly paid civil service, and a large extension of it. (Cheers.) And finally he was desirous of seeing in India an open legislative council kept in control by the only public opinion which could operate there, namely, a free and ungagged press. (Vehement cheering.) And in every particular, the traditional policy of the Company stood opposed to these wishes. It operated as a *vis inertiæ* which could only be overcome by being removed out of the way altogether. Whilst the Company lasted, there was but little that could be done for India. As soon as it was got rid of, they might hopefully labour for an amelioration of its native races. His desire, therefore, was to remove the very foundation on which the traditional policy rested. He did not attempt to conceal from himself that what they sought to effect would be

attended with difficulties—but what was difficulty but the measure of force, moral or physical, which was necessary to be overcome in order to the attainment of the object in view? For one he did not regard those difficulties as insuperable. There was the question of patronage for instance. He saw no reason why it should be transferred to the minister of the Crown—he would open up the way to Government employment in India to whatever intellectual ability or moral virtue this kingdom possessed. At any rate, he thought it would reflect great disgrace upon the competency of the House of Commons, if, after all the light of experience they now enjoyed, they were unable to devise some scheme for dispensing the patronage of India which while providing for efficient service in that empire, would at the same time avoid putting a leverage in the hands of the Government for moving the House of Commons to any corrupt complicity with themselves in unpatriotic designs. (Cheers.) Then there was the Indian debt. He was afraid that whatever became of the double government, that was a liability which sooner or later we should have to meet, and judging from experience, he feared that the longer the Court of Directors were continued in power, the larger would be the burden they would ultimately lay down at our feet. This was one of the penalties entailed upon the nation by its past inattention to the affairs of India. But he did not despair that under a wise administration of Government, India herself might be made capable of sustaining the load, and after a few years, of getting rid of it altogether. For his part, he did not despair of the future of India. He could not help thinking that with a Government intent upon performing its proper functions, confining itself within its own province, and wielding the sword of justice for the protection of all classes and all religions, and with Christian zeal in this country exerting itself to the utmost to diffuse the light of the Gospel by voluntary sacrifices, India, within a short time, estimating it by the life, not of individuals, but of nations, might rise to a much higher position, and would one day be seen sitting at the feet of their great Master "clothed and in her right mind." (Loud cheering.)

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE rejoiced to see the crowded state of the hall, for he had the strongest conviction of the necessity of carrying the first resolution—namely, that there should be a change in the Indian government; but no change whatever could be effected without the support of the people. No minister, however well disposed, would undertake the task unless he could carry with him the support of the public. The greatest difficulty he felt in speaking upon the subject was that he really had no cause to advocate, for he had never heard any person assign a reason why the present East Indian Government should be continued. It was the duty of the people of England to abolish a system which stood in the way of a large improvement in the government of the most glorious dependency that ever Providence committed to man. There had been a controversy in Parliament whether the President of the Board of Control had lately written a letter which showed that he was ignorant of the way in which a considerable body of troops had been conveyed to India. It appeared, however, that there was a mistake about the letter, and that no such letter had ever been written; but during the whole of the discussion he never heard it denied that such a letter might have been written without the President of the Board of Control knowing what had been done upon the subject; nor was any explanation given to show why the Board in Cannon-row should know what had been done by the Court of Directors in Leadenhall-street. Was that, he would ask, the way? With regard to the present Government of India, it was notorious that its finances were in a state of dilapidation and ruin. A large deficiency of the revenue had been openly announced. Would any minister in this country dare come to Parliament with such a budget? But in regard to India there was no responsible minister. The want of responsibility was the great pervading evil of the Indian Government. What was the case in regard to the Persian war? The Governor-General proclaimed war against Persia. Who gave him those orders? The Court of Directors.

Mr. J. JONES.—No; it was the secret committee. (Cheers.)

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE.—The secret committee! There is a fourth form of government. We had before the double and the treble government, and now we have the quadruple government. (Cheers and laughter.) But who were the secret committee? Why, the chairman, the deputy-chairman, and another member of the Court of Directors; but if it were right that this secret committee should rule the government of the Crown, and enforce upon them a policy against their will, it was at least desirable that that secret body should be permanent. What he would recommend to all sincere Indian reformers was to make a free present of the patronage to the Court of Directors for their lives, provided good and true men were chosen to carry on the government of India. (Cheers.)

Mr. COLLETT then moved the following amendment:—

That the suppression of the Indian rebellion and the redress of Indian grievances can be obtained only by enforcing the penalties of the law upon those who are alike the authors of both, not in India only, but in England; by the restoration to the natives, princes, and people of the property confiscated, and by the abolition of the Board of Control and the assumption, by the Queen in Council, the Parliament, and the nation, of a control over the East India Empire.

After a few observations, which were very impatiently listened to by the meeting, the amendment, having been seconded by Captain Rolland, was put and negatived by a vast majority.

The original resolution was then put and carried almost unanimously.

Mr. MEAD, the editor of the *Friend of India*, then came forward to move the remaining resolutions. He was received with great cheering, but he said that he entirely disclaimed any pretensions to martyrdom. It was true that he had suffered from the policy pursued by the Indian Government towards the press in that country. The *Friend of India* was first warned because it stated that the writer hoped that 100 years hence the British population of India would be living under Christian Government. The paper was not only warned, but it was not permitted to re-appear except on the condition of the dismissal of the editor. (Cries of "Shame.") The speaker then entered into a very lengthened historical detail of the affairs of India, more especially in regard to the different tenures on which land was held in the different presidencies, and stated that owing to its gross mismanagement the East India Government was at this moment irretrievably bankrupt. He concluded by moving the following resolutions:—

2. That, although a vicious and irresponsible system of home government, like the trusteeship of the East India Company, may be well fitted for extending our Indian empire by its unscrupulous use of force and fraud against the feeble Powers of Asia, still it is evidently unfitted for inspiring confidence in British honour, and for consolidating British power in any part of the world, and until it be superseded no effectual step can be taken towards removing those evils of which the people of India so justly complain; such as a judicial and police administration which gives no security for person or property; a system of land revenue which prevents capitalists from investing their fortunes in the soil; a want of irrigation to develope its boundless riches, and of roads and canals to bring its produce to market; a traditionary policy of discouraging British enterprise and settlement in India; and a monopoly of all the prizes of office by the nominees of the home Government.

3. That the patronage hitherto monopolised by the directors of the East India Company belongs of right to the whole body of their countrymen, and should be given to the public at large; and that, in the words of a Cabinet Minister, forty years ago, and then president of the Board of Control, "means might easily be adopted for placing the appointments in India under that species of management which would not tend in any degree to injure the principles of the constitution by increasing the influence of the Crown."

4. That the attempt to supervise and control the details of Indian administration in this country is absurb in theory, pernicious in practice, and in most cases wholly nugatory and deceptive; such attempt should therefore henceforth be abandoned, the control of the home Government be limited to matters of Imperial policy, and local checks imposed on the local administration in India, by the institution of open Legislative Councils, and the restoration of the liberty of the press.

The resolution having been seconded,

Mr. ERNEST JONES moved as an addendum the following words:—

That this meeting is further of opinion that there can be no security for the future good government of India without a thorough reform in our representative system.

Mr. ANDREW seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN.—You have heard these resolutions on which we are unanimous; Mr. Ernest Jones has proposed a rider—those who are in favour of the resolutions with the rider will hold up their hands.

Almost the whole meeting responded to this call by a show of hands; and the resolutions, with Mr. E. Jones's addendum, were carried. A petition to the House of Commons, founded on the resolution, was then adopted, and after a vote of thanks to the chairman the meeting separated.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

An extraordinary decree grants the credit of one million francs towards alleviating the sufferings of the workmen, and finding them in the communes means of employment and food.

General Edgar Ney is named Prince de la Moskowa.

It is said that the Government has resolved to postpone the supplementary Paris elections until March from fear of popular agitation. Meanwhile, a new Opposition has been originated by the *Courier de Paris*, in a constitutional sense. Some powerful articles in favour of "liberty" and universal suffrage, from the pen of M. de Girardin, have opened the campaign. The writer seems to anticipate that the Imperial Government is prepared to adopt a more liberal policy, and thinks the empire is now strong enough to admit a greater freedom of discussion. The Imperialist journals sneer at the new Opposition, and the Government officials have started a rival to the *Revue des deux Mondes*, and have been endeavouring to coerce its best writers to come over to their new organ, the *Revue contemporaine*.

BELGIUM.

The result of all the elections is known. The number of Liberal deputies, which was 44 in the last Chamber, is now increased to 69. The Liberal majority is 30. In all the important towns—Brussels, Antwerp, Ghent, Liège, Bruges, Mons, Tournai, Charleroi, Verviers, and Nivelles—the Catholic party has been unable to elect a single candidate. MM. Dumon and Mercier, both ex-ministers, were defeated, the one at Tournai and the other at Nivelles. M. Delahaye, the late President of the Chamber, was defeated at Ghent. Two influential members of the Catholic party, MM. Osy and Deschamps, have been thrown out at Antwerp and Charleroi. M. Rogier, the Prime Minister, has been elected both at Brussels and Antwerp.

PIEDMONT.

The session of the Sardinian Chambers was opened on Monday by a Speech from the King. The Royal Speech expressed a hope that the Chambers would co-operate with the Government. It was a Government, said the King, which, like the old one, was devoted to Liberal and progressive principles. He regretted to say that the interruption of diplomatic relations with Austria had not been mended, but it was a rupture which fortunately did not affect the commercial intercourse between the two countries. With respect to finance, the King believed that an equilibrium would be possible with great economy. However, a loan would be needed, if for no other purpose than promoting such important public works as the projected improvements at the port of Spezzia and the piercing of Mount Cenis. The Legislators received the Speech with enthusiasm, and thereby indicated their wish to support the Government.

SPAIN.

The Prince of the Asturias has been baptised. An amnesty has been accorded for all political offences, and to persons condemned for slight offences. Twenty-two colonels have been promoted, and a number of the oldest lieutenants have been made captains. Numerous decorations have been distributed.

TURKEY.

By intelligence from Constantinople we learn that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe was to embark on the 12th for Trieste, on leave of absence, to recover his health, and then return. He was to pass through Vienna and Paris. In his absence, Mr. Alison was to be at the head of the embassy. Advices from Smyrna state that the financial crisis has become more alarming.

A letter from Jerusalem of the 20th ult. states that great agitation prevailed in that city and the neighbourhood. A conflict had taken place between the inhabitants of Bethlehem and those of Tamar, in which one man was killed and several wounded. Caravans of pilgrims were beginning to arrive in the country. Jerusalem is crowded with pilgrims of a new character. A great part of the crew of the American frigate *Congress* had arrived there to visit the holy places, together with a great number of the crews of the three Russian ships-of-war anchored at Jaffa. The Princess de la Tour d'Auvergne is likewise expected at Jerusalem.

AMERICA.

Monetary Affairs continue in an unsettled state.

We have advices from New York to November 28. The affairs of Kansas are again a source of disquietude. The President and Mr. Walker, Governor of Kansas, are at issue. The cause of difference between President Buchanan and Governor Walker is thus stated by the *New York Herald*:—"The President holds the ground that the Kansas Lecompton Convention was a legitimate convention; that it had the law authority to frame a State constitution; that it should have submitted such constitution bodily to the vote of the people; but that, in submitting the question of 'slavery' or 'no slavery' to the popular vote, the only material question at issue was satisfactorily provided for, and that accordingly the immaterial reservations of the Convention might be overlooked. Governor Walker, on the other hand, emphatically declares that this Lecompton constitutional programme is an outrage upon the people of Kansas—a shameless violation of all the principles of free government; that the constitution in question is yet a secret document in the territory, still in the hands of the committee, to be altered or amended as they may think proper, and that an effort on the part of Congress to force this constitution upon the people of Kansas, without their voice being heard for or against it, will be surely be followed by rebellion and a bloody civil war." There have been several interviews between them, and it is said that the President is supported in his views by a united Cabinet.

The President's message was said to be finished, except that part of it relating to Kansas. He would recommend a considerable increase in the army. Senators and members were slowly arriving at Washington.

In reference to the Mormon difficulty a despatch from Washington of the 27th says:—"General Smith is still here, consulting with the Government relative to Utah affairs. It is not improbable that General Joseph Lane will be commissioned to proceed to California and conduct the war against the Mormons. Near 2,000,000 dols. will have been expended on the expedition. They have 2,000 men, 1,500 wagons, and 13,000 animals, and more quartermasters than the English had in their Crimean expedition!"

News from Northern Mexico states that the Federal Government had ordered a body of troops to the border, owing to the unsettled political and social state of the country.

CHINA.

A letter from Hong Kong, dated Oct. 30th, says:—"English and French ships of war continue to arrive, augmenting the allied fleets. The steam transport *Imperador*, with 500 Royal Marines, has arrived, and the *Imperatrix*, with a similar number, is near at hand, so that with the exception of the marines on board the *Adelaide*, and what are expected from Calcutta, it may be said that nearly the whole force is here. To-morrow, or the following day, the naval force will move towards Canton, and I hear that the 15th proximo is the day fixed upon for the attack on Canton, which place, when carried—about which no great difficulty is anticipated—will be retained by us until the Emperor expresses a wish to open negotiations."

An expedition under Commodore Elliot, consisting of the gunboats *Plover*, *Opossum*, and *Staunch*, with some ships' boats, left Tiger Island on the 14th inst. After a cruise of several days they came out near

the junction of the great west and north rivers, and arrived at Macao on the 19th inst. During the cruise several Mandarin junks and some forts were destroyed, but private property was not interfered with.

No less than fifty-seven men-of-war were in the China seas on the 15th of October.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

General Van Opthal has left Holland for London, to *demand* officially, for the Prince of Orange, the hand of the Princess Alice.

The Hon. Charles Sumner landed at Boston, from the *Niagara*, in November, much improved in health by his visit to England and the Continent.

The *Weekly Register* announces the death, at Rome, of the youngest son of Sir John Bowring, Governor of Hong Kong. The deceased gentleman, who was in his 30th year, was a Jesuit priest.

General Totleben, who is now staying at Wiesbaden, fell with his horse on the 5th inst., in the neighbourhood of the Kursaal, and broke his right arm.

Accounts from St. Petersburg of the 30th of November, mention that winter has set in very severely. During the nights of the 26th and 27th ult. 12 degrees of cold were experienced, in consequence of which the Neva was frozen, and navigation completely stopped.

THE MONETARY CRISIS.

We regret that the list of heavy failures continues to augment, the majority being connected with the Continental trade. Messrs. Heine, Semon, and Co., largely engaged in the trade with the north of Germany, have stopped; liabilities estimated at 700,000*l*. It is believed they will shortly be able to resume. The next house is that of Messrs. Wienholt, Wehner, and Co., merchants, chiefly in the Indian, Australian, and Continental trades. The liabilities are estimated at from 300,000*l*. to 350,000*l*. Messrs. T. H. Elmenhorst and Co., engaged in trade with the Continent, have also stopped, with moderate liabilities. Messrs. Montoya, Saenz, and Co., of Winchester-buildings, in the South American trade, have likewise stopped payment, owing to the stoppage of their house at Bogotà (New Granada), which has arranged to pay twenty shillings in the pound. It is stated that the house has very few creditors in London. The acceptances of Mr. J. Gallard, of Lombard-street-chambers, have also been returned; French and Swiss connexions; liabilities very limited. It also transpired on Friday that the private bank of Messrs. Farley, Lavender, Owen, and Gutch, of Worcester, stopped payment. This bank was established in 1794. Its authorised note issue is 15,463*l*., and its actual circulation only 4,294*l*. The partners are Mr. John Owen and Mr. John Matthew Gutch, both of Worcester. The connexions of the bank are understood to be chiefly amongst agriculturists, and the liabilities will probably prove inconsiderable.

On Saturday the following suspensions were announced: Messrs. Hadland and Co., of Cheapside, in the Manchester trade, with liabilities estimated at 30,000*l*. or 40,000*l*. Messrs. Tooth and Co., of Mincing-lane, with moderate liabilities; the connexions of the firm in Australia are said to be wealthy. Messrs. H. and M. Toldorph and Co., merchants, of Seething-lane, have also stopped, with small liabilities.

Monday's list of failures includes Messrs. Rew, Prescott, and Co., largely engaged in the trade with Sweden. Liabilities are heavy, as much, it is said, as 700,000*l*. Messrs. Richard Willey and Co., extensive silk mercers, and Messrs. S. C. Lister and Co., large woollen merchants, at Halifax, have also suspended.

The Western Bank of Scotland is to be wound-up; the directors have abandoned all hope of a resuscitation.

The Bank has aided Messrs. Robert Smith and Co., of Manchester, silk merchants; and the Wolverhampton Banking Company. This bank resumed payment of its notes on Tuesday; and it is expected that it will recommence ordinary business next week.

The estate of the discount-house of Sanderson, Sandemann, and Co., is to be wound-up under inspection; it is expected that the creditors will be paid in full.

The liabilities of Messrs. Hoare, Buxton, and Co., are set down at 257,000*l*.: the assets at 119,500*l*. The estate is to be wound-up—under inspection.

Advices from Marseilles mention the failure of two more houses, Greeks, one being that of Mr. Constantine Ralli, with considerable liabilities.

The crisis in Hamburgh does not appear to be passed. The great firm of Pontoppidan and Co. have been assisted by the Danish Government, and have already resumed payment and business as usual. The loan is 1,500,000 marks banco, or about 110,000*l*. sterling. This has had a good effect. On the other hand, the crisis cannot be pronounced over till the end of January next, when the acceptances will have run off, and it will be ascertained which are good and which are rotten. A Hamburg letter says:—

The wrecks caused by the storms of the last fortnight are beginning to become painfully apparent in the domestic arrangements of private families. Everywhere retrenchment is the order of the day, equipages and horses are sold off, tutors and governesses have notice to leave, servants are discharged, the theatres are deserted, and no one has the courage to give the balls and dinner parties usual at this season.

The Senate of Hamburg has been invested by the Assembly of Citizens with discretionary power to apply the of sum 800,000*l*., lent for a year by the National Bank of Austria to the state of Hamburg, to the relief of six to eight of the most extensive commercial houses, the bankruptcy of which was impending.

It is mentioned that the National Bank at Copenhagen is asking from the Government assistance to the extent of four or five millions of rix dollars, in order to take up and renew numerous drafts on Hamburg, and to grant liberal assistance to the Danish merchants.

The Danish Council of State has authorised the Minister Herr Krieger to bring in a bill for a loan of 300,000*l*. sterling, at 8 per cent., secured on the finances of the whole kingdom.

The list of bankruptcies at Berlin is still very limited. Two firms only belonging to the Exchange have stopped payment. The remainder consists of manufacturing houses, whose bills for merchandise, sent for exportation to Hamburg, had not been honoured.

A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 29th, in the *Constitutionnel*, says:—"The commercial crisis begins to make itself felt here. Several houses have already stopped payment, and among them that of Balden, whose liabilities amount to about a million of roubles. Serious apprehensions are felt for Warsaw, and the houses in relation with Poland."

CRIMINAL RECORD.

A HORRIBLE TRAGEDY has been perpetrated in Drummond-street, Euston-square. Two foreigners, a man and a woman, recently took apartments at a coffee-house in that street, and lived in a somewhat costly style. On Sunday afternoon, when they were about to go out, the landlord, Mr. Harper, asked them to pay the amount of their bill. They walked upstairs and retired to their bedroom, as if to obtain the money for that purpose. Nothing, however, was seen of them during the remainder of the day; and late in the evening the landlord became alarmed and procured the assistance of the police. On breaking open the bedroom they found its wretched occupants quite dead, with their throats frightfully cut. It appeared evident that the man had first murdered his companion and then committed suicide himself. The police, on making a search, discovered that although they had run up a bill to the extent of several pounds, they were both almost penniless. Nothing whatever has been found to give any clue as to the identity of the parties beyond the fact that they were natives of France. An inquest is to be held.

DOUBLE MURDER AND SUICIDE AT CROYDON.—Mr. Smithers, a young man employed as a clerk in the Consol Office in the Bank of England, was found dead in his bed on Thursday morning, from poison by prussic acid, which he administered to himself. His mother and brother were also found dead in bed also from poison, which it is supposed was administered to them by Mr. Smithers. The family lived at Thornton Heath, Croydon. Mr. Smithers had been speculating largely upon the Stock Exchange, and it is supposed his losses had so affected his mind as to lead him to commit the dreadful crimes just described. An inquest which has been held terminated yesterday, when the following verdict was returned:—"That Mary Smithers, and Charles Smithers were wilfully murdered by the administration of poison by William Holton Smithers, and that William Holton Smithers afterwards committed self-destruction while suffering under temporary mental derangement." Speculation, borrowing, purloining, drink, briefly describe the causes of this sad tragedy.

Postscript.

Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1857.

DESPATCH FROM GENERAL HAVELOCK.

Last night's *Gazette* contains a hurried despatch telegraphed from Cawnpore, from Brigadier-General Havelock, describing the occupation of the Lucknow Residency. It is dated Sept. 30. After doing justice to the "characteristic generosity" of Sir James Outram, he describes his advance upon Lucknow. On the 23rd he came upon the enemy near Alumbagh strongly posted. They were defeated and five guns captured. The British troops were incessantly cannonaded by the city artillery for twenty-four hours, while the enemy made good use of a body of 1,500 cavalry. General Havelock goes on to describe the assault on the city, which was deferred until the 25th:—

On that morning our baggage and tents were deposited in the Alum Bagh, under an escort, and we advanced. The 1st Brigade, under Sir J. Outram's personal leading, drove the enemy from a succession of gardens and walled enclosures, supported by the two brigades which I accompanied. Both brigades were established on the canal, at the bridge of the Char Bagh. From this point the direct road to the Residency is a little less than two miles, but it was known to have been cut by trenches, and crossed by pallisades at short intervals, the houses also being all loop-holed. Progress in this direction was opposed, so the united column pushed and deployed along the narrow road which skirts the left bank of the canal. Its advance was not seriously interrupted until it came opposite the King's Palace, or Kissurah Bagh, where two guns and a body of mercenary troops were entrenched. From this entrenchment a fire of grape and musketry was poured, under which nothing could live. The artillery and troops had to pass a bridge partially under its influence, but were then shrouded by the buildings adjacent to the palace of Fhureed Bukah.

Darkness was coming, and it was proposed to halt within the court of this Mehal for the night; but I esteemed it to be of such importance not to leave this beleaguered garrison, knowing that succour was at hand, that I ordered the main body of the 78th Highlanders and the regiment of Ferozepore to advance.

This column rushed on with a desperate . . . . . by Sir J. Outram and myself, Lieutenants Hudson and Harhood,* of my staff, and overcoming every obstacle, established itself within the enclosure of the Residency.

The . . . garrison may be more easily conceived than described; but it was not until the next evening that the whole of my troop, guns, tumbrils, and sick and wounded, continually exposed to the attack of the enemy, could be brought step by step within this inclosure and the adjacent palace of Fhureed Bukah.

To form a notion of the obstacles overcome, a reference must be made to the events that are known to have occurred at Buenos Ayres and Saragossa: our advance was through streets of flat-roofed and loop-holed houses, each forming a separate fortress. I am filled with surprise at the success of operations which demanded the efforts of ten thousand good troops; the advantage has cost us dearly.

The killed, wounded, and missing—the latter being wounded soldiers, who, I regret to say, have fallen into the hands of a merciless foe—amount to 464 officers and men: Brigadier-General Neill, commanding 1st Brigade; Major . . . , commanding Artillery; Lieutenant-Colonel Bazely, a volunteer with the force, are killed. Colonel Campbell, commanding 90th Infantry; Lieut.-Colonel Tytler, my Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, and Lieutenant Havelock, my Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, are severely, but not dangerously, wounded.

Sir James Outram received a flesh wound in the arm in the early part of the action, near Char Bagh, but nothing would subdue his spirit; and, though faint from loss of blood, he continued to the end of the operation to sit on his horse, which he only dismounted at the gate of the Residency. As he has now assumed the command, I leave to him the narrative of all events subsequent to the 25th inst.

H. HAVELOCK, Brigadier-General.

A supplement to the *London Gazette* of last night publishes other official reports of the various commanding officers at the different points where severe fighting has taken place in India.

Both the Calcutta and Bombay mails will be due at Suez next Saturday, and epitomes of their news by telegraph may reach London to-morrow week.

Mr. Dent has been returned for Scarborough—the numbers at the close of the poll being, Dent, 373; Cayley, 280.

The close of the poll yesterday for North Northamptonshire was as follows:—

Hunt (Conservative)	...	...	...	1,453
Vernon (Ministerial)	...	...	...	1,127
Majority for Hunt	...	...		326

At the sitting of the Central Criminal Court yesterday, William Attwell and Edward Jackson and his wife, the persons concerned in the robbery of Lady Ellesmere's jewels, were put upon their trial for that offence. The evidence against Jackson was conclusive, but a verdict of not guilty was received against his wife. Jackson was sentenced to 10 years' penal servitude. It was considered that Attwell had earned a right to a merciful sentence, inasmuch as his voluntary confession had greatly assisted the officers in tracing out the circumstances connected with the robbery. The addition of imprisonment for a period of six months to the term which he is now expiating was in his case held to be sufficient.

Henry S. Bright, who but a short time ago was a respected and influential citizen of the town of Hull, being engaged in most extensive mercantile transactions, and taking a foremost part in all religious and benevolent enterprises, is now a convicted felon. At the York Assizes, yesterday, he was found guilty of the grave crime of forgery, and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

The attempt to launch the *Leviathan* were again renewed yesterday with confident anticipation of success, but the monster continued obdurate, and made no progress whatever in his passage to the Thames.

The Leeds Mercury of yesterday announces the stoppage of the respectable firm of Saalfeld, Brothers, woollen cloth manufacturers, of Leeds, London, and Hamburg, with liabilities to the amount of about 200,000*l*. It is also stated that Messrs. Lister, of Bradford and Halifax are solvent. Positive statements were circulated yesterday in London of the embarrassment of firms in Yorkshire largely connected with the wool trade, which, if confirmed, will be likely to lead to numerous difficulties among smaller houses.

The letters from Hamburg of the 12th inst. are far from describing any general return of confidence. Additional failures were still expected. The total up to the present time is about 140. Credit is gone.

* Havelock?

MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

Only a limited supply of English wheat was on offer in to-day's market. Good and fine qualities realised Monday's quotations; but other kinds moved off slowly, at a slight reduction, compared with last week. We were well supplied with nearly all kinds of foreign wheat. The trade generally ruled heavy, but no actual fall took place in prices. Barley supported Monday's currency; but the demand ruled inactive. In malt, very little was doing, at late rates. We had a fair demand for oats, at full quotations. Beans, peas, and flour moved off slowly, at barely late rates.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The Publisher of the *Nonconformist* begs respectfully to inform the Subscribers that he has purchased from the Assignees of Mr. FREEMAN'S Estate, the whole of the Debts connected with the Paper. He will therefore feel obliged by their forwarding any amounts now due, to 25, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.

Subscriptions and Advertisements for the NONCONFORMIST, *with Post-office Orders (Postage-stamps not accepted), payable at the General Post-office, should be addressed to* MR. CORNELIUS RUFUS NELSON, 25, BOUVERIE-STREET, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.

THE NONCONFORMIST *is registered for transmission abroad.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Lex"—We will endeavour to find room for his letter next week.

"T. G."—must have seen how impossible it has been to insert his letter during the pressure of the last fortnight. But, besides, we think it undesirable to re-open the subject in our columns.

*** In consequence of the press of matter, we have been obliged to postpone several communications from other correspondents.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1857.

SUMMARY.

THE ten days' session of Parliament came to a close on Saturday, when the Bank Issues Indemnity Bill received the Royal assent. Of course, that necessary measure met with no more obstruction in the Upper, than in the Lower Chamber. The discussion was taken on Friday night, and, but for Earl Grey, the bill would have passed through all its stages without any other remarks than were made by its proposer, Lord Stanley of Alderley. Indeed, before the question came on, the greater part of the peers were dispersed for the Christmas holidays—seeing no reason probably for anticipating the currency debates which must sooner or later claim their attention. While the question of our future monetary arrangements is still *sub judice*, the opinions of so thoughtful and independent a statesman as Earl Grey are worthy of attention. He proposes to carry out the Bank Charter Act to its legitimate conclusion. Believing that to coin paper money is infinitely more dangerous than to coin gold, he proposes that the former, as well as the latter, should be issued by the State alone; and that, as a matter of public convenience, and to relieve the demand for gold, there should be a considerable issue of one pound notes.

The Secretary for Foreign Affairs has, it must be admitted, gone to the extreme length of diplomatic etiquette in opposing the French scheme of Negro emigration from the African coast. On Friday night, when the question was referred to by Lord Shaftesbury, the Earl of Clarendon showed that the carrying out of the plan would inevitably lead to a revival of the slave-trade, stated some grave facts already familiar to our readers, and especially adverted to the injury that would be inflicted on legitimate commerce by the scheme. He quoted from a proclamation of the chiefs of Abbeokuta, who have already commenced hostilities with the view of providing "free immigrants" to the French colonies, which declares that "during the war nothing must be sold and nothing bought." The French Government have promised serious consideration to the friendly representations of our Foreign Office, and Lord Clarendon believes, though he cannot say on authority, that they are resolved to put an end to the system altogether. We trust these expectations may not be falsified; though it is somewhat disquieting that at this juncture an elaborate essay should appear in the *Revue Contemporaine*, a Government organ, containing something like an official vindication of the Imperial project.

Notwithstanding the relief afforded by the relaxation of the Bank Charter, the trade and commerce of the country have recovered but little from the effects of the severe monetary pressure. Though money is abundant, credit is not restored. The daily list of serious failures, aggravated by the more numerous suspensions in the north of Europe, materially tends to check reviving confidence, and to paralyse trade in the manufacturing districts. The large number of unemployed and half-employed in our principal centres of industry indicates the prevalence of wide-spread privation and distress, and hold out the prospect of a gloomy Christmas to our operative classes. During this trying season there is ample scope for the liberality of those who have suffered little or nothing from the monetary pressure.

Accounts from Hamburg describe the system of bill accommodation as having been carried on to an enormous extent, and to have been one of the main causes of the disastrous monetary panic. There was reason to hope that this practice had been limited amongst ourselves, but the facts which are daily coming to light show that it is not alone the Waughs and Stephenses who have been trading upon the resources of others, but commercial firms hitherto enjoying a high reputation. The sad fact will help to account for the slow revival of credit amongst us.

We are glad to be able to record that Mr. Milner Gibson has been restored to the House of Commons. Ashton has repaired the wrong done by Manchester. So able a debator will be needed during the approaching discussions on Parliamentary reform, the necessity of which has been shown during the week, by the return of Mr. Baring, for Thetford, to succeed his father—a quiet family arrangement—and the election of Mr. Bagshaw, jun., to share with Mr. Bagshaw, sen., the representation of some 200 voters in the town of Harwich. Paisley has triumphantly elected Mr. Crum Ewing to succeed Mr. Hastie, and we have great hopes that he will fully justify the confidence reposed in him by his constituents. Whitehaven would do well to send up to St. Stephens Mr. Nicholson, "the father of the ballot in Australia," but, unfortunately, Whitehaven can only speak through the Earl of Lonsdale.

Though the affairs of India occupy the larger portion of our present number, we would fain hope that our readers will not grudge the space given to the two interesting letters of our Calcutta correspondent. We will not here refer to the contents of the last mail, except to say, that the state of Central India, — the unsettled countries watered by the Taptee the Chumbul, and the Nerbudda—ought to share with Oude the public attention. This vast tract of territory, containing mountain ranges, dangerous passes, and strong forts, has yet to be reconquered. From the mouth of the Nerbudda to Hosungabad, and thence north-eastward, there is not a place into which a European can venture. Saugor, Hindia, and Hosungabad are still ours, but all around them enemies in force threaten these isolated places, and render the position of the defenders precarious. This, it appears, is the direction in which the formidable Gwalior contingent has at length moved, and who may yet prove to be formidable foes in a country so difficult of access to British troops.

The description given by our correspondent of the second battle of Agra, of the admirable commissariat arrangements of the Indian government, and of the upshot of the Mohammedan appointment at Patna will, we doubt not, be read with interest. The city of Delhi, totally abandoned by its inhabitants, is now a hospital on a large scale for the reception and recovery of the *four thousand* sick and wounded that General Penny has now on his hands. What sad evidence of the terrible nature of the struggle in which our brave troops were engaged, ere the city was captured! Our correspondent states that most of the valuable property in Delhi was carried off by the fugitive rebels—calls attention to the fact that the proofs of Mussulman conspiracy have been stolen from Patna while under the regime of Mr. Samuell and his protegé, Ameer Ali—and describes how freedom of opinion in Calcutta is excluded from the press and has found refuge in the pulpit. Dr. Duff has been preaching against the sins of British rulers. His sermon, if published, would actually subject the printer to prosecution under the *Press Act*, which Lord Granville the other day took so much pains to defend!

The signal triumph of the Liberal party in the Belgian elections has saved that country from the domination of an ultra-Catholic party, and shows that, in the long run, free institutions are more than a match for a "clerical party," party," however strongly organised.

From China we learn that preparations are being made for attacking Canton with our fleet and some 2,000 soldiers and marines. The city is, we are told, to be held till the Emperor complies with our demands. But how are we to get at his Celestial Majesty? Our ships could stop the grain supplies for the capital, which are sent up the Gulf of Pecheli, and thus oblige the Emperor to listen to reason. But to turn a city of a million people into a huge slaughter-house, on the chance of getting redress from a distant sovereign, may be reconcilable with a hard commercial spirit, but would be an outrage on humanity, and a blot on the English name.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

"COME and gone." The business of "great national importance" which Parliament was summoned to transact, is done. The Indemnity Act which has relieved ministers from the responsibility of having preferred the public safety to a blind submission to law, having passed both Houses—both flitted on Saturday last. The adjournment is to the 4th of February.

Such being the case, we have no great variety of topics to touch upon—Sir Henry Havelock's Annuity Bill, Lord John's Parliamentary Oaths Bill, and the discussions on the monetary crisis, comprehend them all. In relation to the first of these, the Government have been compelled to defer to the wishes of the House. They wanted to be economical in the wrong place—we hope their estimates will show them to have been equally considerate in the right one. Sir Henry Havelock is between sixty and seventy years of age. His sole claim to distinction lies in his service to his country. He is not highly connected—he is not rich—and he is a Baptist. That he has performed exploits almost unparalleled in the annals of war, and by his indomitable energy has saved an empire, however it may excite the admiration of the British people, does not compensate for his lack of antecedents in the eyes of our lordly cabinet. And so they proposed, with cold laudations, that Sir Henry should have an annuity of 1,000*l.* for his natural life—he being, at this moment, perhaps, a martyr to his country's honour, or, if not, called upon to face death every moment. The House would not hear it. Mr. White indignantly contrasted the niggardly treatment of General Havelock with the honors lavished on the aristocratic Crimean heroes. Mr. Bowyer, Sir Charles Napier, Sir F. Smith, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Griffith and Mr. P. O'Brien, reprehended the shabby reward proposed to be offered Sir Henry as a mark of national gratitude. The feeling was too general and too strong to be resisted—and, of course, Lord Palmerston, in announcing that the pension would be fixed for two lives instead of one, assured the House that the change would afford quite as much pleasure to Her Majesty's government as to the members of the House. The bill has been read a second time, and stands over for its future stages until February next.

Lord John Russell has contrived by arrangement with the Government to get through the initiatory stage of his new Jew Bill, without much trouble. The argument is exhausted, and the House is weary of the subject. We need not, therefore, describe the debate to which we have adverted elsewhere. It was chiefly remarkable for having brought out from the younger members of the House a profession of sound opinion which augurs favorably for the future. We must not, however, omit to notice that Mr. Thomas Duncombe has given notice of submitting a resolution on the reassembling of Parliament in February, to allow Baron Rothschild "to take the oaths appointed by law in such a form as may be binding on his conscience, and in accordance with the faith which he professes." How much trouble and vexation would have been saved by resorting to this measure in the first instance!

The discussion on the monetary crisis, *apropos* of the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to reappoint the Select Committee of Inquiry into the operation of the Bank Charter Act of 1844, was not very lively, although it was certainly conducted with great ability. One conclusion we gather from it—that the Act is now pretty generally believed to be susceptible of considerable improvement. If this be the impression of the House, we can have no objection to further inquiry, particularly as the main topic to which investigation is to be directed is the causes of the recent commercial disturbance. Much light of the most valuable kind—we mean the light of facts—has yet to be thrown on this disastrous passage of our history, and we are not sorry, therefore, that the House, rejecting Mr. Disraeli's amendment for immediate legislation, sanctioned the appointment of a Committee by 295 to 117 votes.

The House met on Saturday a little after three; and after about an hour's sitting, quietly adjourned to February 4th.

INDIA REFORM.

THE *Globe* of Monday last has an article, in its own inimitable shabby-genteel style, on the public meeting held on Wednesday evening last, at the London Tavern, to promote a reform of the government of India. Our vivacious and slip-shod contemporary, equally careless and slovenly in his diction, his arguments, and his facts—very much like his putative patron, in this respect—evidently thinks that impertinent jocularity spiced with a pungent calumny or two, is an infallible antidote against the effects of earnest denunciations of official evil. The meeting having drawn together men of widely differing opinions on other subjects, but thoroughly agreed as to the necessity of putting a speedy close to the "double government," is, of course, twitted with a most original allusion to "the United Happy Family." The Chairman, Mr. Gilpin, M.P. for Northampton, having been boldly saddled with opinions which he never entertained, and with a quotation which he never uttered, is contrasted with Mr. Mead who is artistically sketched as "the gibbet-denouncing, fire-and-sword breathing, Calcutta-public-exasperation-echoing, forbearance-execrating, extermi-

nation-inculcating *Friend of India*." Mr. G. J. Phillimore, late member for Leominster, is tortured into a complaint, which he never made, that the Sepoys were not well enough paid—and the Marquis of Clanricarde, who is taunted with being in the company of "five-point and no-peerage Chartists," is supposed to have acquiesced in an interpolated assertion made by a Mr. John Jones, whom the *Globe* mistakes for Mr. Ernest Jones, to the effect that the Secret Committee is a fourth independent governing power in India—the fact being that the noble marquis merely met an angry interruption of that gentleman with an *ad hominem* castigation. But if all that the *Globe* makes itself merry about were as true as it is feigned, it would still remain to be asked, why the gentlemen thus held up to ridicule should not associate for the purpose of convincing the public that the double government of India is a rank official sham. Is it not suggestive that on *that* subject, men of all ranks, and of the most opposite political creeds, think pretty much alike?

The *Globe*, we see, endeavours to eke out his case by a quotation from a work written by Mr. Mead, and just published.* Now, we also wish to speak of that work, in connexion with the subject of India Reform, and consider it a fortunate circumstance that the reference to it, and to its author, so unfairly made by our contemporary, gives us so apt an opportunity of strongly recommending it to the perusal of our readers. We do not pledge ourselves for its judicial impartiality towards Lord Canning's government. It is hardly to be expected that the gentleman selected for the first victim to the noble lord's infamous Press Act, should hold the balance of justice perfectly even, when weighing the results of the Governor-General's administration. We must confess, however, that Mr. Mead's judgment is sustained by a formidable array of facts, and that it is in entire accordance with all the communications we have received from the seat of our Indian empire. But a somewhat severe estimate of Lord Canning and his council is, after all, but a minor feature of this deeply interesting book. The work really answers to its title. It gives us a thrilling *resumé* of the Sepoy Revolt, and discusses with intuitive sagacity both its causes and its consequences. There is an Anglo-Saxon strength in Mr. Mead's opinions, a breadth of common sense in his judgments, and an absence of quackery about his recommendations. Perhaps, he takes for granted, as a gentleman who has lived in India for ten years would be very apt to do, a larger amount of information on Indian affairs, than the great majority of his readers are likely to possess—but no one, we think, can read his volume without rising from the perusal of it much better qualified than he was previously, to do his part as a subject of the realm, towards reconstructing the government of India upon a solid and satisfactory basis.

Our readers, of course, will be prepared to find Mr. Mead sternly opposed to a continuance of the Company's rule in India. Indeed, he regards it as an impossibility. Their "earth-hunger" have destroyed them. They are in a hopeless state of insolvency. The average excess of their expenditure over their income for the last three years, has been upwards of a million and a half sterling per annum. Their estimate for the present financial year provided for a deficit of two millions sterling. The losses in their ordinary sources of income they have incurred by this Sepoy revolt, the writer puts down at 4,000,000*l.* a year, for three or four years to come—and this added to the deficit already mentioned will bring up the total annual deficiency to 6,000,000*l.* To this he adds, on the side of expenditure, the cost of re-conquest—25,000 additional European troops, transport charges, &c., &c., and estimates the excess of expenses over revenue at 12,500,000*l.* a year, for the next few years. If this review of the Company's financial position and prospects be not strangely overcoloured, it is tolerably clear that their rule in India draws nigh its termination—for they are bankrupt in credit as well as in cash.

The picture drawn by Mr. Mead of the results of the Company's administration does not encourage us to perpetuate it. They seem to have overturned all the bases of the social constitution which they found existing in India, without having supplied broader or more solid ones. Rajahs, nobles, jaghiredars, zemindars, ryots,—all have more or less suffered under the greedy exactions, and senseless policy, of the Court of Directors. In education, they have begun at the wrong end—in religion, they have fostered the wrong systems. Nothing can be more gloomy than the present aspect of things—India resembles Ireland as it was in 1847, with the addition, however, of its revolting superstitions.

How, then, are we to lift the empire from its present deep degradation? Mr. Mead tells us that to proclaim the transference of the government of India from the Company to the Crown, would do more for the restoration of order than fifty thousand bayonets. But his grand remedy for the social mischiefs which prevail in India consists in a thorough reform of the land tenure systems. At present, no capital can be securely invested in the soil of India, because there is no guarantee for a permanency of tenure. All three of the land revenue systems adopted in that empire—the Zemindarry, the Ryotwarry, and the village system—have substantially failed, simply because in no case have the natural laws which affect the distribution of property been allowed free action. Nor can we hope to restore matters to a sounder footing, without consenting for some years to come to a large financial deficit. He recommends a reduction of the land-tax throughout India, without reference to the quality of the soil, to two shillings an acre—and a sale of the fee-simple at a pound an acre—giving the cultivators a right of pre-emption upon the payment of five per cent. of the purchase money within twelve months. This, he calculates, would immediately reduce the land revenue by 4,500,000*l.* But then, on the other hand, he expects that within a comparatively short period, not less than 40,000,000 additional acres would be brought under cultivation, and the financial deficiency resulting from the measure would be permanently repaired, whilst instant ease would be given to the greater portion of the population. He tells us that the various soils of India are fully able to produce cotton, sugar, silk, tea, seeds, rice, and wheat, equal to the whole demand in this country, and that a wise system of Indian administration would benefit the commercial and manufacturing enterprise and industry of Great Britain, quite as largely as it would profit the natives. With some such policy, with India thrown open to all the Queen's subjects, and with the instant annihilation of the monopoly of covenanted service, he believes that India would soon become prosperous beyond all former example, and would be bound to us by the golden chain of self-interest, affection and trust.

Some time since we urged the duty of British subjects, especially those of them invested with the franchise, to begin the reparation of their past negligence, by furnishing themselves with authentic information on Indian affairs. This is one of the books which, in our judgment, may assist them to a right application of their political power and influence in relation to the great question now uppermost in every mind. It may have been written in haste—it may reveal an unfair bias—but, on the whole, it presents the fullest and most reliable answer we have yet seen to the two most momentous inquiries of the day—"What is the actual state of India?" and "What are its most pressing wants?"

THE RELIEF OF LUCKNOW AND THE CAMPAIGN IN OUDE.

"ALL right at Lucknow" is the pithy but cheering message of Sir Colin Campbell, which will diffuse a sense of relief over every heart that has throbbed with sympathy at the fortnightly tidings from the capital of Oude. The pregnant phrase, flashed from Cawnpore by the re-constructed telegraph, may be interpreted to mean that both Havelock and Outram are safe—that the garrison and their helpless charge, the sick, the wounded and non-combatants, are in no imminent peril from famine, or from the assaults of the rebels—and that they would, in all probability, be able to hold out until relieved in that fortified Residency, where, in the space of a few months, years of heroism and suffering have been concentrated. Our hopes are the more sanguine when we examine the circumstances of the case. On the 3rd of November, Colonel Greathed's column, now under the command of Brigadier Grant, swollen to 5,000 men by reinforcement at Cawnpore, was at Alumbagh, whither it escorted large quantities of provisions. That this strong force did not at once attempt to force a passage to the Residency, is a sure sign that the garrison was not in immediate danger. At that fortified position, within three miles of their beleaguered countrymen they had come to rescue, the column leisurely awaited the arrival of the Commander-in-Chief with 1,500 additional troops—the advanced guard of a still larger force. We may confidently believe that no British soldiers would spend above a week in inaction, if more than 2,000 precious lives were at stake almost within cannon-shot;* and may, therefore, place confidence in the report that Sir James Outram had found means to inform Sir Colin that the garrison could yet hold out for some days, and had asked that no thought of its danger might interfere with a complete victory. Such a message is characteristic of the Bayard of Indian officers.

It is plain that the British commander is entering upon a conflict of no ordinary magnitude, and that nothing short of an imposing force and abundance of artillery will ensure that "complete victory" which Sir James Outram desires. Nor can we reasonably expect that the next mail, which may be telegraphed by Christmas day, will bring intelligence of the fall of Lucknow. While, therefore, awaiting the grand issue, we may briefly glance at the position and strength of either party.

The capital of Oude is described as a wilderness of narrow streets, with gardens, small bazaars, knots of houses and other enclosed places, almost as capable of defence as the interior of Delhi. The direct road to the Residency, about a mile, goes right through the heart of the southern suburb. This no doubt, as in the advance of General Havelock, will have been strongly barricaded. That gallant officer avoided the obstruction by turning to the right and seizing the southern suburb. It was only after two days' hard fighting, in which "every inch of ground was obstinately contested," and "bullets literally rained upon the advancing force," that Havelock and Outram marched into the Residency, and relieved the garrison. But sixty-four officers and 400 men of that small army fell in the desperate struggle—the details of which are even yet unknown to us. Under any circumstances, the difficulty and danger of assaulting a great city, swarming with hordes of disciplined Sepoys, who fight with desperate hardihood behind the shelter of walls, must be great.

But the position both of the rebels and of their assailants is materially different from what it was on the 25th of September. The former, besides being cowed by repeated defeats, cannot but feel the moral influence of the fall of Delhi, and the approach of a relieving army strong in numbers, as well as artillery. But, like their comrades in the North-West, they must also know that they go forth to battle with halters round their necks. They are commanded by the miscreant Nana Sahib, who has the best of reasons for fighting to the death. They are defending a city that had for no more than a few months before the outbreak, been in possession of a European Government. Oude has all along been the focus of the rebellion. Its dethroned King is supposed to have been its prime instigator; its agricultural population has furnished the greater portion of the mutinous Sepoys; its Zemindars are nearly all hostile to the Supreme Government—all but one being in arms against it; and its 400 fortresses, "not one of which has been dismantled since the annexation," give assurance that the rebels will not lack either guns or ammunition. And, when it is said, that even when Lucknow is in our possession, Oude will have to be reconquered, "inch by inch," Sir Colin Campbell has, we may be assured, no contemptible enemy to crush. For some reasons it is matter for thankfulness that the bands of rebels in all the disturbed districts are making their way to Oude. Thither were hastening the Dinapore insurgents under Koour Singh; the Delhi fugitives, 15,000 strong, who escaped by way of Muttra, and crossed the Ganges near Futtehghur; the 3,000 rebels whom Colonel Wilson routed out of Bithoor; 5,000 Sepoys from Bundelcund; and the Gwalior contingent, 8,000 strong, cavalry, infantry, and artillery, with a siege train and abundance of field guns, who were last heard of at Culpee, on the Jumna, which river they were expected to cross into Oude.* In Lucknow, then, and in their native country, the rebel Sepoys will probably be brought again to a head. This, in the words of our correspondent, "forebodes a hard campaign during the cold weather." "There cannot," he adds, "be less than 40,000 trained rebels there," independent of the bands that are swarming across the frontier from Delhi, Bundelcund, Gwalior, and Dinapore. Thus, in spite of repeated defeats, the rebels may yet outnumber their assailants in the proportion of ten to one.

Sir Colin Campbell, with all his dash and decision, may well pause ere he enters upon, not so much a siege as a campaign. The force he will be able to concentrate at Alumbagh is estimated at the highest at 5,000 Europeans and 3,000 Sikhs and Ghoorkas. He took with him from Cawn-

* "The Sepoy Revolt: its Causes and its Consequences." By Henry Mead. London: John Murray, Albemarle-street. 1857.

* Our anticipations are confirmed by the publication of a letter from Lieut. Moorsom, Deputy-Assistant Quarter-Master General to Sir H. Havelock's force, who writes as follows, from Lucknow, as late as Oct. 27, to his mother: "We relieved Lucknow from its instant peril, and are now ourselves occupying a more extended position in the town, blockaded with the garrison. Write to Inglis's, Gubbins's, and Couper's people, if possible, to say that they and theirs are all well. We have grub abundant, ammunition, good quarters, plenty of fighting men, stout hearts, and our God on our side; on the other, our enemy numerous, but cowardly, with a scarcity of iron and lead for guns. Had we not many women and children, and sick and wounded, we could walk out of the town at any moment. As it is, we can hold our own and steadily make small advances until reinforcements arrive."

* There is still some doubt as to the whereabouts of this Contingent. "A civilian," in the *Times*, writing from Allahabad, represents them as having gone off to Jhansi, in the opposite direction to Oude.

pore large supplies of provisions and ammunition, and "a numerous artillery." There can be little doubt that the latter will be the chief agent in the coming work of destruction, and that Captain Peel's big guns will smash a path through the "lath and plaster" city for our troops, without any terrible loss of life for the assailants. "It is understood," says the Calcutta correspondent of the *Times*, "that Sir Colin will, when all is ready, cross the Goomtee, advance on the bank opposite the town, and from that vantage ground shell the enemy out. He will then recross, and then perhaps enter the Residency without the loss of a man. Lucknow, once secured and fortified, will become his head-quarters, whence, inch by inch, he may reconquer Oude." The same writer surmises that the plan of the rebels may be to fire as long as they can, then evacuate the city, permit the relieving force to enter the Residency, and close in upon them again. In any case we sincerely hope that the capture of Lucknow may not involve any serious sacrifice of life. Our troops will have work enough in reconquering the kingdom of Oude when its capital is once more in our hands. It is not to be forgotten that the attack on the city from the south or east will raise the siege of the Residency, and enable such portion of its garrison as is not *hors de combat* to render essential service at the right moment. Who would have thought when, nearly six months ago, Sir Henry Lawrence and his brave and helpless companions retired behind its walls, that those frail defences would have been so long and heroically held by a mere handful of Englishmen against thousands of rebel Sepoys, and a swarming and hostile population?—that its relief would coincide with the death blow given to the rebellion? But we anticipate. Lucknow has (so far as we know) yet to be relieved. Perhaps the same mail that brings tidings that the Residency is saved will record that the city is in ashes. The description given elsewhere of the present condition of the city of the Mogul Emperors may, in a few weeks, apply to the capital of the Kings of Oude.

It may be expected that the settlement of Oude, after the fall of its capital, will take much time and engage a large force. British troops are now in an enemy's territory—the country of the Sepoys—and will have to contend not only with a military but with a native opposition. In that kingdom prevails the "talookdaree" system, by which a sort of superior middlemen hold large tracts of land between the Government and the cultivating community, and are responsible for the payment of the revenue. To this system the Bengal Government is hostile—being favourable to village proprietors, rather than to feudal lords. Most of these talookdars, who had their own forts, troops, and guns, were either ousted or threatened with ejection at the annexation. No wonder then that, as our correspondent says, "crowds of scoundrels and feudal retainers of the great Oude lords are concentrated at Lucknow, and by force putting all money, stores, and grain, into requisition to crush that little garrison." The attitude of these "lords" when the rebellion broke out is thus described by "a Civilian" in the *Times*, and will help us to understand something of the nature of the work to be done in Oude:—

> At the first the talookdars behaved well to us personally. They are men of honour in their way; with the butchery of a rabble they have no sympathy; to protect all who seek their protection is with them a point of honour. By none have so many European lives been saved as by these men. But our government was altogether upset; no time had yet elapsed sufficient to destroy the strength of the talookdars or to enable the village proprietors to acquire strength in, or probably even any sufficient appreciation of, their rights; the talookdars almost universally resumed what they considered to be their own again, and seem to have met with popular support. Thus they became committed against Government, and, being committed, our severities at Allahabad and Cawnpore led them to fear the worst. Till Havelock's final retreat from his last unsuccessful attempt to relieve Lucknow, they seem to have tried to temporise, but when Havelock recrossed the Ganges to Cawnpore, and it appeared that we had decidedly failed, the talookdars declared against us without reserve. Chief among them is Rajah Man Singh, and it is, in reality, a Hindoo confederacy. It is said that these men and their followers are now the most numerous and prominent of our opponents at Lucknow.

Oude, therefore, may be expected to become for some time one great battle-field, thanks to the unwarrantable measure of annexation resolved on by Lord Dalhousie, and our interference with the land system of the country.

POST-OFFICE LONDON DIRECTORY FOR 1858.

The fifty-ninth annual issue of this huge and, we may add, handsome annual has been issued, and though Messrs. Kelly and Co. have no rivalry to fear, improvement still marks the growing age of the Directory. The present issue is more compact than last year's, without any decrease of size. The complaint of increasing bulk has been met by printing those portions of the book which follow the Trades Directory in a smaller type; whose comparative smallness is obvious at a glance, as well as its clearness. No reduction of matter, however, has taken place, but the contrary. Notwithstanding the quantity of letter-press, the corrections have been made to the latest date, and the work contains an elaborate and accurate map of London and its suburbs. Of an annual so essential to the office and counting-house, it almost suffices to announce its appearance with such improvements as careful observation suggests.

THE PROPOSED EXTRA CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

In addition to the firms in the principal towns in Essex, which have already been announced as intending to close their respective establishments on the 26th inst., the drapers of Reading and most of the drapers of Portsea, have come to a similar determination, as also one or two large City houses, together with about sixty of the leading Islington shopkeepers. It is furthermore stated, that a canvass for promoting the same object is taking place in some of the other districts of London. This movement is the more gratifying, and reflects the greater credit on employers, as it appears so far to have originated very much with members of their own body. These are not times to expect concessions from mercantile men, involving pecuniary sacrifice; but this seems one of those cases where principals may add greatly to the happiness of their young people without any loss worth naming to themselves. It may be suggested, that by those shopkeepers who have resolved to give the holiday, announcing the same in their windows, there will be the greater chance of the arrangement becoming general.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

DEBATES.

THE ANNUITY TO SIR H. HAVELOCK.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, the report of the Committee upon the annuity to Sir Henry Havelock led to a brief discussion, in the course of which suggestions were thrown out for extending the annuity. Mr. GLADSTONE observed that much value would be taken from rewards of this nature if they were suggested by members of Parliament, and that some latitude and discretion in their distribution ought to be left to the Crown and the Executive Government. Sir J. PAKINGTON hoped that upon this occasion the observations of Mr. Gladstone would have no tendency to check the expression of a feeling which did honour to the house, and he strongly urged the Government to continue the annuity to Captain Havelock. The resolution was agreed to, and a bill founded thereon brought in and read a first time.

On Thursday the bill was read a second time, after a discussion, in which the title of the gallant officer to a higher reward was strongly urged. The expression of opinion was remarkable and unprecedented. Mr. BOWYER (a Roman Catholic) said he thought that Parliament was dealing very inadequately with the great services of General Havelock.

He had performed one of the greatest exploits known in the military history of the country—he had saved an empire—and the reward proposed for that was 1,000*l.* for his life. What benefit was such a reward to his family? He was being shot at now fifty times a day—nay, a report had been circulated within the last hour—which he hoped the Government would be able to contradict—that he was actually killed. At any rate his life was in hourly risk.

Sir C. NAPIER was quite certain that Parliament would have been ready to bestow a much larger pension on General Havelock if the Government had proposed it. Mr. P. O'BRIEN was sure the people of Ireland would join in the general feeling of admiration of the gallantry displayed by the heroic man who was the subject of this discussion. (Hear, hear.) He would willingly support the proposition to prolong the grant. Sir H. VERNEY and Mr. CLAY also urged a generous course. Captain SCOTT spoke as a friend of the Havelock family, and one who had served for twenty years in the same regiment with the late Colonel W. Havelock.

The family of the Havelocks was not a wealthy family. The late Colonel W. Havelock had nothing but his pay to depend upon, and he believed Sir H. Havelock had nothing more, having for many years remained a subaltern, which he would not have done had he been possessed of means to enable him to purchase his steps. Upon his death the value of his commission would be lost, as in the case of his brother, and his family would lose the benefit of the annuity now proposed to endure only during the lifetime of Sir H. Havelock. His son, a young man in the army, was probably dependent upon his pay, and at the death of his father he would find himself hampered with a title with nothing but his pay to support it. Under these circumstances he thought it very hard that the annuity should not pass for two lives. (Hear, hear.)

Sir F. SMITH, as a military man, looked upon the conduct of Sir H. Havelock as an honour to the British nation, and as forming one of the highest pages in our history. (Hear, hear.) He was sure that the Government, in recognition of such gallant services, seeing the sense of the house and the feeling of the public, would be inclined to deal in a liberal spirit as regarded money matters with Sir H. Havelock.

Mr. RICHARDSON and Mr. GRIFFITH spoke in a similar spirit.

On Friday, Lord PALMERSTON, in announcing the business arrangements of the Government, said, respecting Sir H. Havelock's pension:—

> In making the proposition which we did we were guided by what we thought had been done in other cases, and we were anxious not to overstep what had been the liberality of the house. We have, however, derived very great pleasure from finding that the disposition of the house would authorise us in going beyond what we have proposed, and in making the pension for two lives instead of one. (Loud cheers.) I can assure the house that change would afford quite as much pleasure to her Majesty's Government as to the members of this house.

A fresh resolution was required which would be introduced in February.

BANK ISSUES INDEMNITY BILL.

On the motion for the third reading of the Bank Issues Indemnity Bill in the Commons on Wednesday a brief discussion arose, in the course of which some general remarks on the questions connected with paper currency, the monetary crisis, and the Bank Charter were offered by Sir H. Willoughby, Mr. Vance, Mr. J. H. Phillips, Mr. Adams, and other hon. members.

Mr. HUDSON said he was for leaving a discretion to the Bank of England. Universal opinion condemned a system which could not be maintained, which, pushed to extremity, would become one of barter.

Mr. PHILLIPS did not think that the cause of the present disorder was in the currency, but in natural causes,—the excess of improper speculation, promoted by the large interest upon deposits forcing up the amount of the fixed capital. The remedy could only be found in the conviction of the community of the great truth uttered by the late Duke of Wellington, that high interest meant bad security.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER reiterated his former statement, that it was not in consequence of any representation made to the Government that the letter had been issued, but they had acted in the matter on their own responsibility, upon the authentic accounts of the financial position of the Bank. No pressure whatever had been put upon the Government which they could not have resisted with facility, and no person had complained to him that the Bank had refused to discount.

The bill was then read a third time, and, with a slight alteration in the first clause, passed.

At three o'clock on Wednesday the bill was taken up to the House of Lords and read a first time. It was read a second time on Thursday.

On the third reading on Friday, Lord STANLEY of Alderley stated its provisions and said he should regret any alteration of the present law merely because circumstances had compelled a partial departure from its provisions; at the same time it was worthy the consideration of Parliament whether it might not be necessary to introduce some new provision with respect to the conditions under which such relaxation should be exercised. He should be glad, after the recess, to see a committee of inquiry upon these matters appointed.

Lord GREY, while agreeing to the bill, thought it necessary to call their lordships' serious attention to the unsatisfactory state in which the law relating to the currency would be left if the present measure were not followed up by further legislation. By this measure the Act of 1844 was virtually repealed. But he warned their lordships against sanctioning the principle that in periods of commercial distress the country might look for relief to an issue of paper money, regulated by no certain principle, and limited only by the discretion of the issuers and the wants of the borrowers. If Parliament allowed it to be considered a settled principle that relief should be given by an issue of paper, many years could not pass without a suspension of cash payments, the fatal effects of which the noble earl traced from the history of the consequences of the suspension of cash payments in 1797. To prevent the possible recurrence of these evils the sound principle of the Act of 1844 ought to be carried out to its legitimate conclusion. The machinery, however, of the act was defective. It left the issue of paper money in the hands of the Bank of England and of other banks. As the principle of the Act of 1844 was to assimilate a paper currency to a metallic currency, the first thing to be done was to assimilate the two in the authority by which they were issued. No money was allowed to be issued by trading persons, but to coin paper money was infinitely more dangerous than to coin gold; what he therefore would recommend was that an end should be put to all issue by the Bank of England and by the joint-stock banks in Scotland and Ireland, and that one uniform currency should be issued by public authority. By the establishment of that principle the recurrence of many commercial evils would be prevented. His lordship considered the prohibition of the issue of small notes in this country a most injudicious measure. The issue of 1*l.*-notes, instead of rendering the currency insecure, would, in his opinion, tend to make it more secure than at present. Such an issue would displace 30,000,000 or 40,000,000 of sovereigns, which would cause a large addition to the capital of the country.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

INDIAN FINANCE.

In reply to a question from Sir Henry Willoughby on Wednesday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated, that according to the usual practice four months' pay and certain stores have been advanced to the troops sent out to India. There is also the prospect of additional temporary charges, in the nature of advances; but all these advances will be repaid. The East India Company may require some

assistance; but, as at present advised, he did not anticipate any large or serious demand.

My belief is, that the Indian revenue will be found before long sufficient to meet a large part of the current expenditure, and that the credit of the East India Company will be sufficiently restored to enable them to borrow what may be necessary to supply the deficiency. I speak only from the accounts that have hitherto been received: I cannot undertake to speak with certainty as to the events of the next few months. The house must see how rapidly events alter in a short time; but what I state is founded on the best judgment that her Majesty's Government can form with reference to the past. I trust that the house will understand me to have spoken with that due reserve which the progress of a mutiny ending in a more general revolt necessarily demands. (Cheers.)

TROOPS BY THE OVERLAND ROUTE.

In the House of Commons, on Thursday, in reply to Sir John Pakington, Lord PALMERSTON stated the reasons why the Government did not send troops overland in July:—

To send a large body of troops, as was then intended to be sent, through Egypt, would have required complicated arrangements, and taken up infinitely more time than would have been saved. If we sent, for instance, 5,000 men to Alexandria for the purpose of going through Egypt, there would be great difficulty in transporting so large a number of troops across the desert. When they arrived at Suez, unless there were ample shipping to take them down the Red Sea, there would be a great delay at a place where there would be no possible means of putting them under proper cover. They would also be exposed to very severe heat in the passage down the Red Sea, which might render them unfit for service when they arrived in India. Moreover, as they would have required a very large amount of shipping to be ready at Suez, it would have been quite unpardonable in the Government to have sent them there until they knew that there were sufficient transports at Suez. It would also have been necessary to send them through Egypt in light marching order; whereas, sending them by sea, we were able to send them with baggage, stores of all kinds, and guns. They would arrive in good health, and when landed, would be perfectly ready for any service that might be required of them. There was another collateral reason, which, upon a balance of equal advantages, would be calculated to turn the scale. In a national point of view, it was of importance in putting down the mutiny that we should do it with our own means in every respect, and that it should not be competent for any foreign nation to say that if it had not been for certain facilities afforded us by friendly powers, which might have been withheld, we should not have been able to accomplish our purpose. I do not mean to say that if there had been a great difference in point of advantage in favour of one route over the other, such a reason ought to prevail, but when the balance was against the overland passage that consideration was entitled to be taken into account.

He added, that it was on the 5th October, after the bulk of the troops had gone, that the French Government offered to permit the passage of troops through France.

JEWISH DISABILITIES.

The House of Commons, on Thursday, having resolved itself into a committee to consider the Oaths of Allegiance, Supremacy, and Abjuration, and also to consider the disabilities affecting her Majesty's Jewish subjects,

Lord J. RUSSELL, in moving that the chairman be directed to move for leave to bring in a bill to substitute one oath for the Oaths of Allegiance, Supremacy, and Abjuration, and for the relief of her Majesty's subjects professing the Jewish religion, stated the nature of the bill, the chief feature of which was the addition to the oath proposed in his former bill of the words "on the true faith of a Christian," and by a subsequent clause authorising the omission of those words when the oath was administered to one of her Majesty's Jewish subjects. He did not propose, he said, to alter the Roman Catholic oath. He referred to an opinion of the Attorney-General, that the Act 5th William IV. entitled that house to frame a declaration to be taken in lieu of an oath, and suggested that, although the result of an inquiry before a committee was unfavourable to this opinion, the decision was arrived at by a small majority, and the question might, if necessary, be revived.

Sir F. THESIGER said it had been arranged that there should be no opposition to the introduction of the bill, and that the second reading should be deferred until after Christmas; but he entreated Lord J. Russell to pause and consider the consequences of a measure which would be a stepping-stone to other innovations, to the admission of Mohammedans and Hindoos. He should, he said, resist the measure in every stage, because he believed that, by the admission of Jews to the Legislature, a fatal blow would be given to a principle interwoven with every department of the State.

Mr. DILLWYN said it should be remembered that if the noble lord's bill failed to pass, the house did not abandon its right to proceed by resolution. After exhausting every means of conciliation, they would be bound to assert the right conferred on them by law and by precedent—viz., that of interpreting the law affecting their own privileges for themselves.

Mr. COX supported the motion, which was opposed by Mr. BENTINCK and Mr. NEWDEGATE.

Mr. PEASE, in supporting the motion, argued that the relaxation of forms did not impair the Christian character of the Legislature. He had listened, he said, with pain to the small amount of vital power attributed to Christianity, the principle of which had no occasion to fear the Jew.

Mr. BUTT, though he had voted against the former bill, would support the present measure.

He believed that the Christian character of this nation rested upon something very different from a phrase in an act of Parliament, a phrase from which Rochester did not shrink, and which Gibbon used as glibly as the most pious Christian. It rested primarily upon the prevalence of Christian doctrines and Christian precepts among the mass of the people; and, secondly, upon the result of that prevalence as evidenced by those laws which were inseparably interwoven with our social constitution. So long as we followed the precepts of Christianity in our conduct towards our fellow-men we should better uphold our national character, and set a better example to other nations, than by the retention of a useless phrase, which a man who had no Christianity would use, but from the adoption of which a man of a sensitive conscience might shrink.

The motion was opposed by Mr. STANHOPE.

Mr. GRIFFITH, who spoke from the Opposition benches, was unwilling to allow it to be supposed that every member on the Opposition side of the House was opposed to the noble lord's measure.

The House of Commons was a political and not a religious assembly, and it was impossible to believe that it could be unchristianised by the presence of one or more members of the Jewish body, which was not characterised by intolerance, for the Jews of the present day subscribed to Christian charities. (Hear, hear.) If the house rejected the proposed bill, it might as well, in consistency, appoint a committee to inquire into the private religious belief of every hon. member. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. WALTER regarded the argument of those who alleged that the admission of a Jew into that house would destroy its Christianity as very much akin to the notion of the Sepoys, who thought a greased cartridge would destroy their religion.

It was degrading Christianity to make it amenable to any such influence. He always disliked quoting Scripture in that assembly; but there was one passage in Holy Writ which seemed to him to bear so remarkably upon the subject before them, that, with the permission of the house, he would draw their attention to it. He referred to that passage in which the Divine author of our religion himself depicted the character of his kingdom. He said—"My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." Now, without meaning any disrespect, he must be allowed to say that the only functions which the House of Commons had to perform were essentially those of an earthly kingdom. (Hear, hear.) The Christianity of this country depended, not on the House of Commons, but on the personal religion of the individual members of society (Hear, hear); and they could no more destroy Christianity by an Act of Parliament admitting Jews or even Mohammedans—if any constituency should be so misguided as to send one—to that house than they unchristianised the country by their admission to society. (Hear, hear.)

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in the course of his reply said:—

I always put this question to hon. gentlemen who adopt the argument of the hon. member—"Do you acknowledge this to be a Christian nation? There are 40,000 Jews in it, and if the existence of those 40,000 Jews prevent the existence of a Christian nation then you are not a Christian nation. But if, although you have 40,000 Jews in this country, it is still a Christian nation, then I ask why the admission of one or two Jews into Parliament would not still leave this a Christian Parliament?" (Cheers.) To that question no answer has been given or can be given. (Hear, hear.) I have always contended that the Christianity of this house is not dependent upon the oath that Bolingbroke and Gibbon have taken, but that it depends upon the personal sentiments of the members of this house. (Hear, hear.) It is no doubt to be wished that they should be guided by Christian sentiments, but the Christianity of this country is not dependent thereon. Having said this much I do not wish to carry the discussion further; but I will add that the hon. and learned member for Boston (Mr. Adams) was right in supposing that I said that in case no other constitutional mode should be left, I should think it right to bring before the house for its decision the question upon which the Attorney-General has formed a decided opinion, and which he expressed in emphatic terms. That is a matter to be hereafter considered. The question was much debated in committee, and it is right that the house, in a matter of such grave importance, should come to a decision upon the subject, if no other constitutional course should present itself. (Cheers.)

Mr. CONINGHAM said it was not for him to canvass the reasons that had induced the Government to hand over a measure embodying a vital principle to an independent member (Hear, hear), nor was it for him to raise any objections to the hands in which it was placed; but, as a member of the Liberal party, he would tell the Government that those who entertained Liberal opinions were carefully watching its proceeding on this bill, especially as the noble lord at the head of the Government had not made this a Cabinet question, but had allowed an influential member of the Cabinet to walk out of the other house without voting. He trusted that Parliament was not about to see a repetition of such a proceeding.

The motion was agreed to, the resolution was reported, and the bill was ordered to be brought in.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE on Friday gave notice that on an early day after the recess he should call the attention of the house to the fact that during the present and the two preceding Parliaments only three of the members returned for the city of London have taken their seats, and that he should move the following resolution:—

That Baron Lionel de Rothschild, a member of the Jewish persuasion, who has been returned for the city of London, be permitted to take the oaths appointed by law in such a form as may be binding on his conscience and in accordance with the faith which he professes. (Loud cheers.)

The motion is to be brought on the 9th of Feb.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

Mr. COWPER, in moving for leave to introduce a bill to amend the Public Health Act (1848), said, it was the same bill which was read a first time last session, and could not be proceeded with for want of time. He trusted that the house would be prepared to consider it after the Christmas recess. The general object was to provide that every town in England, great or small, should have the opportunity of acquiring, without any considerable cost or difficulty, local representative government, armed with sufficient powers to provide structural works and to make regulations necessary for the sanitary improvement of the inhabitants. Both the towns which had and the towns which had not representative government wished to be able to adopt the Public Health Act with greater facilities and with provisions more adapted to their wants. He proposed the intervention of the general board only in cases where the boundaries had to be altered, and where some of the provisions of the Public Health Act had to be modified. The powers to be acquired under this bill would be for making structural works, borrowing money, supplying water, lighting streets, and providing regulations which were necessary for the good government of these towns. There were some who asked, why such meddling and such unnecessary interference? The purpose of the meddling was to get rid of the refuse of thousands, which had the effect of substituting disease for health, weakness for strength, and death for life.

Mr. AYRTON said that if the bill were drawn in such a manner as to improve the sanitary condition of the people without infringing their personal liberties, it would meet with his support.

Sir A. ELTON, though he was a supporter of the principle of local freedom of action, yet thought there ought to be a power existing somewhere which would set right the wrongdoings of the local authorities, and stir them up when they neglected their duties. (Hear, hear.)

Leave was then given to bring in the bill, which was subsequently brought in and read a first time.

AFRICAN EMIGRATION.

In the House of Lords on Friday, in answer to a question by Lord Shaftesbury, Lord CLARENDON said that a contract had been entered into by the French Government and a certain firm for the supply of Negroes to the French colonies, on the condition that it was to be *bona fide* a free immigration. A similar experiment had been tried by this country sixteen years ago, but had failed. Her Majesty's Government were alive to the dangers of any such scheme, and had felt it their duty to bring the matter under the notice of the French Government.

The answer of the French Government had been, that while they fully admitted the engagement to discourage slavery to be binding upon them, yet they did not consider the steps which were in progress to obtain a supply of free labour for their colonies constituted any violation of that engagement, but that, on the contrary, it was an act of humanity to procure that labour in an honest and open manner, which otherwise would be procured with all the horrors of a clandestine slave trade. At the same time the French Government desired that there should be no abuse of the system, and they would take into their serious consideration the representations which had been made to them by her Majesty's Government, in order to stop any inconveniences which might arise. The French Government also admitted that, although there was no treaty between themselves and this country, yet they were bound to act up to the spirit of the declaration of the Congress, and that they were now as anxious to put an end to the slave trade as they were in 1815. That declaration was so short that he (Lord Clarendon) thought it would be useful at the present time to recal its terms to the public mind. The declaration of the eight powers in 1815 was,—

"That the Plenipotentiaries assembled at this Congress cannot do greater credit to their mission, better fulfil their duty, and manifest the principles which actuate their august sovereigns, than by endeavouring to carry this engagement into effect, and by proclaiming, in the name of their sovereigns, their wish of putting an end to a scourge which has so long desolated Africa, degraded Europe, and afflicted humanity. Consequently, &c., that the engagement reciprocally contracted in the present declaration between the sovereigns who are parties to it cannot be considered as completely fulfilled until the period when complete success shall have crowned their united efforts."

To that declaration the French Government had expressed its emphatic determination to adhere. He had now stated the actual state of affairs, and thought, after the assurances of the French Government, there was great reason to hope that at no distant day the system which had created such universal consternation among the well-wishers of Africa would be entirely abolished.

Lord DERBY did not doubt the sincerity of the French Government when they stated their belief that in sanctioning the system proposed by them they had no idea of a revival of the slave trade, but his conviction was that, surround it with what safeguards they might, it would be impossible to prevent abuses, and that the French Government were deceiving themselves if they did not perceive that the maintenance of the system was identical in substance, if not in form, with the slave trade itself.

The Earl of CLARENDON—

I was extremely desirous in replying to the question of my noble friend not to overstate, and therefore I gave as nearly as possible the words used by the French Government, but I have reason to believe, although I cannot at present venture to state—(The noble earl did not conclude the sentence save by a slight gesture.)

Lord GREY expressed a hope that if, unhappily, the result of the correspondence with France on this subject should be unsatisfactory, the whole of the proceedings would be published and submitted to the judgment of the civilised world. In his opinion, this was a moment when especial care should be taken to prevent so iniquitous a scheme as that which was said to be set on foot from being carried into execution.

TOPICS ABOUT INDIA.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, among the questions put by various members, Mr. A. MILLS inquired whether the attention of the Government had been called to the question of transporting a certain number of the mutineers in India to such of our colonies as were willing to receive them. Mr. V. SMITH replied that their attention had been

directed to the subject; that the object was a desirable one, but it was a very difficult and delicate matter.

Mr. WISE asked why the Government had declined to present to her Majesty the memorial from the British inhabitants at Calcutta. Lord PALMERSTON said the rule was, if any complaint was made against a governor abroad, that the memorial should be transmitted through the governor, with his observations, in order that the Government at home should be in possession of the whole matter. He had thought it his duty, therefore, to return the memorial in question to those who had forwarded it.

Mr. HORSMAN inquired whether it was true that the King of Delhi had received a promise that his life should be spared, and, if so, the reason and the authority.

Mr. V. SMITH said orders had been given for the trial of the King, but, as Captain Hodson, at the time of his arrest, did promise him his life, and that under no other circumstances could he have seized him, it was, therefore, impossible to depart from that pledge.

Mr. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD raised an irregular debate on the conduct of the Government, whom he blamed for not having shown sufficient energy and activity in forwarding troops to India. Sir J. PAKINGTON accused them of "supineness and neglect." Sir J. ELPHINSTONE and Mr. F. SCOTT joined in the attack. In the course of a defensive reply, Mr. V. SMITH intimated that the Government would accede to a motion, notice of which had been given by Sir De Lacy Evans, for a committee of inquiry on the conduct of the war. Lord J. RUSSELL regarded this as the constitutional course, but he thought as a preliminary there should be a committee of the whole house.

THE BANK CHARTER ACT.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in moving for the re-appointment of the select committee to inquire into the operations of the Bank Act of 1844, and of the Bank Acts for Ireland and Scotland of 1845, observed that, on introducing the Bank Indemnity Bill, he had expressed a confident belief that the crisis was passing away, and this conviction was confirmed by the present condition of the bullion and reserve in the Bank. He acknowledged the fair and candid treatment which the question had received from all parts of the house; and stated a few interesting facts. When the Treasury letter was issued on the 12th November, the bullion in the Bank was 6,524,000*l.*; on Thursday night it was 8,200,000*l.* On the 12th November, the reserve in the Bank was 581,000*l.*; on Thursday night it was 4,650,000*l.* In proposing the re-appointment of the committee, Sir George Lewis showed how it had already examined witnesses of the highest character; how it still has to continue its examination into parts of the subject which it had left untouched; and how it had as yet passed no opinion on the subject of its evidence. Since the Act of 1844, practices have arisen upon which new light has been thrown by the occurrences of the last few weeks, particularly the Scotch system of leaving deposits bearing interest on call, which has grown up within the last ten years. Sir George discussed the question whether the Issue Department should be divided from the Bank of England: the payment of dividends by a single line of transfer in a book kept by the Bank as bank—the consequent avoidance of a large amount of currency that would be otherwise required—the saving of two reserves—saving in the receipt and transfer of bullion, with which the Government has now nothing to do except to stamp it at the Mint—are all reasons against the separation. Sir George repeated in detail his opinion against any extensive changes in the Act of 1844, and showed up a proposal to issue inconvertible paper money receivable by Government for taxes. He looked to the report of the committee as the groundwork for future legislation.

Mr. DISRAELI admitted the value of the inquiry of last session; which had, in fact, exhausted the subject. The Act of 1844 is a dead letter. In these progressive days we have accumulated an immense amount of experience and reasoning, not available to the Bullion committee fifty years ago. We have had a crisis every ten years—in 1825, '37, '47 and '57—which cannot be imputed to derangement of currency, but to derangement of capital. At immense length Mr. Disraeli traced this derangement to the vast expenditure in public buildings by every Government in Europe and America, expenditure in railways, the Crédit Mobilier style of speculation throughout Europe, and three bad harvests in France. But the advocates of bullion and of paper equally agree that crises might be prevented by a judicious regulation of the circulation of bank-notes. There must be some reason for that agreement. He contended that bank-notes convertible at par never can be depreciated; that issues and returns must always be equal, so that in the long run the balance must always be struck between them; that the price must be affected as in a metallic currency; that in crises there has been no over-issue of notes, which he illustrated statistically; that bank-notes are becoming gradually superseded by other methods of exchange (the Clearing-house, &c.); but that the mischievous operation of the Act of 1844 consists in its paralyzing circulation. On these data, he called upon the Government to legislate forthwith. He moved, as an amendment, "That, in the opinion of this house, no further inquiry is necessary into the operation of the Bank Act of 1844 (7th and 8th of Victoria, cap. 32)."

Mr. CARDWELL, in a very brief and plain speech, exposed the fallacies of Mr. Disraeli; and showed how desirable it is, even with a view to developing the principle of the Act of 1844, going forward with the progressiveness of the age, to let the committee of last session pursue and complete its inquiry. Mr. GLADSTONE, on the other hand, insisted that the house ought now to proceed, and to tell the country plainly what it thinks about the Act of 1844. Even Lord Overstone, superior to the pedantry of dogmatism and egotism, admits the question whether certain elastic provisions might not be inserted in the act. The main evil at present is the uncertainty of the law. Select committees are cumbersome instruments for arriving at the truth, and Government ought to be prepared in February next to make some proposal to the house.

Mr. Malins and Mr. Blakemore were for the amendment; Mr. Horsfall and Mr. Weguelin for the re-appointment of the committee.

The house divided, and the numbers were:—

For the motion	...	...	295
Against it	...	...	117
Majority			—178

The announcement was received with cheers.

On a further motion by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, the house agreed that the committee should be instructed "to inquire into the causes of the recent commercial distress, and to investigate how far it has been affected by the laws for regulating the issue of bank-notes payable on demand.

SATURDAY'S SITTING.

The House of Lords met at three o'clock on Saturday, when the Royal Assent was given, by commission, to the Bank Issues Indemnity Bill.

Lord PANMURE, referring to reports which, he said, had obtained considerable circulation, of dissensions between the Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief in India, read the following extract from a letter from Sir Colin Campbell to the Duke of Cambridge, dated October 26. The letter was written to his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, on the occasion of that gallant officer's quitting Calcutta to take the field at the head of his troops:—

Now that I am on the point of leaving Calcutta I would beg, with the greatest respect to the Governor-General, to record the deep sense of the obligations which I entertain towards his lordship. Our intercourse has been most cordial, intimate, and unreserved. I cannot be sufficiently thankful for his lordship's confidence and support, and the kindly manner in which they have been afforded to my great personal satisfaction. One at a distance, not acquainted with the ordinary mode of transacting business in this country, could hardly estimate the gain to the public service which has thus been made, but I allude principally to my own feelings of gratification.

The house adjourned at twenty-five minutes after three till Thursday, the 4th of February.

In the House of Commons, on the motion of Mr. HAYTER, a new writ was ordered to be issued for Buckinghamshire, in the room of the Hon. C. Cavendish, who had accepted the Stewardship of Northstead.

Lord PALMERSTON moved that the house, on rising, should adjourn to Thursday, the 4th of February.

Mr. NEWDEGATE called the attention of the Home Secretary to the serious distress which the commercial crisis had been the means of producing among the operative classes. Sir G. GREY bore testimony to the fortitude with which the operatives had borne their privations. He trusted that the distress was diminishing, and would prove only temporary, but could suggest no means by which either the Government or the Legislature could interfere for its mitigation.

Mr. HEADLAM gave notice, for the 11th of February, of a motion for leave to bring in a bill on the subject of joint-stock banks.

The HOME SECRETARY announced that, on the first day after the recess, he should ask leave to introduce a bill for the better regulation of the Corporation of the City of London.

Mr. WYLD asked the First Lord of the Treasury if, upon the re-assembling of Parliament, it was the intention of her Majesty's ministers to propose any alteration to the present Government of India? Sir G. GREY said his noble friend had already stated that it was the intention of the Government, on the re-assembling of Parliament, to state their views on the subject. He could give no further answer.

The house adjourned at half-past four o'clock until the 4th of February next.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. WISE on Thursday presented a petition from the British inhabitants of Calcutta and the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, praying for the removal of the government of India from the East India Company and the substitution of the direct government of her Majesty the Queen. On the motion of the hon. member, the petition was read at length by the clerk at the table.

Mr. Headlam has given notice that after the Christmas recess he shall move that banks be placed upon the same footing as other companies in regard to limited liability.

Sir G. GREY, in reply to Mr. Steuart, said that it was intended to propose a committee to investigate the present practice of election petitions.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer will, after the holidays, propose that the whole questions of savings banks—including the appropriation of savings banks securities, shall be referred to a select committee.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, on Friday, in moving the postponement of the order for going into a Committee of Supply until the 5th of February, stated that the Government proposed to advance the sum of 5,000*l.* from the civil contingencies, to be hereafter voted by the house, for the expedition of Dr. Livingstone into the interior of Africa—

It is stated that such an exploration might lead to important commercial consequences, and that it is a district which is well fitted, among other things, for the cultivation of cotton. There is a ship now ready of such construction as is necessary for ascending that river—that is to say, a ship that will draw but a small quantity of water. If this voyage of discovery be made this year, it would be necessary that the ship should leave this country in January, that it might arrive at the mouth of the river in the month of March. Unless that can be accomplished the voyage must necessarily be postponed to another year.

The Attorney-General has been ordered by the House of Commons to prosecute Mr. Edward Auchmuty Glover on a charge of signing a declaration of his property qualification that was not true.

The starving Kaffirs was the subject of a question by Mr. Bagwell on Friday. Mr. LABOUCHERE said that about a year ago, acting on the advice of a so-styled prophet who suddenly appeared among the people, a great many of the native inhabitants of Kaffraria had been induced to destroy their cattle, and to abstain from cultivating their lands, under the impression that by some miraculous agency an improved breed of cattle would be restored to them, and the fertility of their lands would be increased. The result of the delusion had been most deplorable, destitution of the most dreadful kind having overtaken the native tribes. He was persuaded that the Governor and the inhabitants of the colony had done all in their power to mitigate the effects of the calamity. The Governor had supplied the natives with seed, and many of them had immigrated into the British colony, seeking for employment. They had been furnished with rations to enable them to proceed thither, committees of the inhabitants had been formed, and many of the natives had been employed as agricultural labourers. At the instance of the Governor, an ordinance had passed through the local Legislature to protect those people as agricultural labourers, and to facilitate their employment in that capacity.

According to Lord PALMERSTON the subject of retiring pensions to bishops resigning their sees is still "under the consideration" of the Cabinet.

Mr. COWPER has announced his intention to introduce a measure regulating the qualifications to be required hereafter from persons admitted into the medical profession.

Sir D. L. EVANS gave notice of his intention to draw the attention of the house to the subject of purchase in the army on an early day after the Christmas holidays; and Sir J. PAKINGTON has given notice that on an early day after the reassembling of Parliament he should move for an inquiry into the present state of national education in England.

In reply to Mr. Garnett, Mr. COWPER said that the time appeared to have come when the Reformatory Schools ought to be placed on a more permanent footing. The Home-office had appointed a special inspector for Reformatory Schools, and it was desirable that the votes to these schools should be distributed through a single department, instead of two. Reformatory Schools were now able to obtain important aid from borough and county rates, and it had become necessary that the minute of June 2, 1856, should be greatly altered and modified. For some months past no new Reformatory Schools had received the grants of the Committee of Council on Education, and notice had been given that after a limited period to be named the existing Reformatories would cease to receive these grants altogether.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

THE ELECTION FOR ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE came off on Friday and Saturday. Mr. Serjeant Shee issued an address in which he stated that he would not enter upon a contest with Mr. Milner Gibson. But no sooner was that gentleman master of the field than Mr. Booth Mason again came forward. The nomination took place on Friday in presence of some 5,000 persons. In the course of his speech Mr. Gibson said that the Conservatives of Ashton must be very curious people if they supported a candidate who went for universal suffrage, vote by ballot, and triennial Parliaments. He did not perceive one bit of Conservatism in the hon. gentleman's address, yet he was told he was brought forward on Conservative principles. (Cheers.) Mr. Mason said that if we had vote by ballot he should be returned by three-fourths of that constituency—(cheers)—therefore he was in favour of the ballot. He was for triennial Parliaments, and would give a vote to every man who inhabited a cottage and paid rates. He was for the church, the throne, and the cottage; the church, so long as it was Protestant, and no longer; the throne, so long as it maintained those great principles which placed the family of Victoria upon it; and the cottage, its rights and liberties, to maintain and defend. The show of hands was in favour of Mr. Mason. The polling took place on Saturday. Mr. Gibson's return was placed beyond doubt before the poll opened, but Mr. Mason's party doggedly persisted in going to the poll, and succeeded in securing nearly every vote from the publicans and beersellers on the register. Mr. Gibson headed the poll throughout. At the close the numbers were—

Gibson	...	...	...	522
Mason	...	...	...	390
				—132

At the close of the poll Mr. Gibson's friends had a surplus of eighty pledged voters unpolled, who, it was understood, would have come forward had there been pressing occasion for their votes, but whose private interests rendered it otherwise undesirable they should poll. After the close of the poll Mr. Gibson presented himself at one of the windows of the Commercial Hotel, and was greeted with loud and enthusiastic applause. He said he felt that the verdict of that day set aside the verdict that had been given against him in Manchester. (Loud

applause.) Birmingham had returned his respected friend Mr. Bright to Parliament (loud applause), and they had done the same by him. (Cheers.) Mr. Henry Vincent subsequently addressed the crowd.

HARWICH.—The result of the election was never for a moment doubtful, Mr. R. J. Bagshaw taking the lead at the polling on Wednesday from the first, and maintaining it to the close. The result at four o'clock was as follows:—Bagshaw, 161; Arcedeckne, 67. Majority for Bagshaw, 94. Harwich is now represented by Messrs. Bagshaw and Son.

THETFORD.—Mr. Baring, jun., was returned on Wednesday as successor to his father. There was no opposition. Mr. Baring, in returning thanks, gave his adherence in general terms to liberal measures. He would vote for the admission of the Jews to Parliament, and should the promised Reform Bill interfere with the borough, he would do his best to protect the privileges which they had so long enjoyed.

EAST KENT.—Mr. Deedes was returned on Thursday without opposition, in place of Sir E. Dering, deceased. The nomination took place on Barham Down, Canterbury. At the last general election Mr. Deedes was defeated on a narrow majority by Sir Edward Dering. The poll stood—"For Dering, 2,358; for Deedes, 2,216."

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—The nomination for Northamptonshire took place on Friday. The Conservative candidate, Mr. Hunt, unexpectedly encountered opposition in the person of Mr. Fitzpatrick Vernon, who obtained the show of hands.

PAISLEY.—Mr. Gower and Mr. Lamont, when they saw how entirely hopeless their prospects were, retired from the contest. The election terminated on Thursday. The following was the result of the poll at the close:—Mr. Crum Ewing, of Glasgow, 767; Mr. Haly, of London, 98; majority for Mr. Ewing, 669.

WHITEHAVEN.—Shortly after the news of Mr. Hildyard's death reached Whitehaven, an announcement was made to the electors calling on them to sign a requisition to their townsman, Mr. William Nicholson, the "father of the ballot in Australia," to canvass the borough.

SCARBOROUGH.—The election of a member of Parliament for this borough in the place of Lord Mulgrave, who has been appointed Governor of Nova Scotia, took place on Saturday last. Mr. John Dent Dent and Mr. G. J. Cayley were the only candidates put in nomination. The former said though a member of the Established Church, he wished to see the obnoxious impost of church-rates abolished, for the church-rates in a pecuniary point were not worth the fighting and heartburning they caused, and the sooner they were abolished the better. He was a strong advocate for education, though not separated from religious instruction; and with regard to religious endowments, while he thought those in England might be considered as private property, it was a great injustice to tax the people of this country for the support of religion in the colonies. The Government of India must be remodelled, and the present cumbrous system of double government superseded by the direct control of the Legislature. Mr. Cayley said he was a Conservative Reformer. He believed the poor people liked Lord Palmerston, because he was a clever man of the world. He considered him a man of the world, a good old fellow, and rather a shifty old chap. (Laughter.) He did not promise to support Lord Palmerston as his hon. opponent did, though he should give the Premier an independent support in all matters for the public good. The show of hands was decided in Mr. Cayley's favour.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.—The Hon. C. C. Cavendish's elevation to the peerage as Baron Latimer, has caused a vacancy for this constituency. There are already two candidates in the field, Mr. W. G. Cavendish, the son of the present member, in the Whig interest, and Captain C. J. B. Hamilton, who was formerly member for the borough of Aylesbury, in the Conservative cause. Mr. Cavendish's address announces his intention of giving an energetic support to Lord Palmerston's Government, and a requisition numerously signed has been presented to Captain Hamilton, who has signified his intention of coming forward.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Court remains in quietude at Osborne. On Thursday, the Queen and Prince Consort, the Princess Royal and Princess Alice, visited Prince Alfred at Alverbank. They returned by way of Gosport in the *Fairy*. On Friday the Prince of Wales arrived at Osborne from Windsor Castle, attended by Mr. Gibbs. Prince Alfred also arrived from Alverbank, attended by Lieutenant Cowell, R.E., returning on Monday. The Prince of Leiningen and Captain the Hon. J. Denman dined with her Majesty. The Court, according to present arrangements, will return to Windsor Castle on Saturday, the 19th inst.

A great many royal and distinguished personages are expected to arrive in January, on a visit to her Majesty, in order to be present at the marriage of the Princess Royal and Prince Frederick William. The King of the Belgians, the Prince and Princess of Prussia, and the Duke of Saxe Coburg will be inmates of Buckingham Palace, and for other visitors of less exalted rank a suite of rooms has been engaged at Farrance's hotel, in Belgravia, where they will be attended by the Queen's own servants, and have the use of her Majesty's carriages.—*Court Journal.*

One of the most important *fêtes* in connexion with the marriage of the Princess Royal and Prince Frederick William will be a grand court reception, for the purpose of a formal presentation of the *élite* of the *beau monde* to the Prince and Princess after their nuptials. This reception will, we believe, be held at Buckingham Palace.—*Court Journal.*

The Duchess of Kent has ordered her robe and train for the Princess Royal's wedding from one of our leading Spitalfields manufacturers.

Colonel Sykes, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Booth, F.R.S., and J. Glaisher, Esq., F.R.S., of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, have resigned their seats in the Council of the Society of Arts.

There have again been frequent Cabinet Councils during the week.

The Prerogative Court sat for the last time on Wednesday. It will be superseded by the new Court of Probate in January. Sir John Dodson took leave of the proctors in cordial terms.

Mr. Lewin B. Bowering, of the Bengal Civil Service, third son of Sir John Bowring, her Majesty's Minister at Hong Kong, has been appointed Assistant Private Secretary to Lord Canning at Calcutta.

Wednesday's *Daily News*, after expressing its disapprobation of the appointment of Lord Mulgrave to the governorship of Nova Scotia, says:—"The present Government is more aristocratic in its constitution, combination, and connexions than any ministry hitherto known to this generation. Not only are a majority of the Cabinet Peers, but every member of it in the House of Commons, with the exception of Mr. Baines, connected with one noble family or other. It would be invidious to particularise where the facts are so notorious and their effects so palpable. For, of course, the tree bears its natural fruit, and as there never was a Government more aristocratic in its composition, so there never was one more aristocratic in its appointments."

Dr. Livingstone sailed last week for Lisbon, in order to make arrangements with the Portuguese Government relative to the navigation of the Zambese River, and commercial intercourse with those regions of the interior where the coast is under the Crown of Portugal. The interest already taken in African exploration by the King of Portugal and his Ministers leaves little doubt of the success of his mission. Dr. Livingstone intends to return to this country for a short time, before finally starting for the scene of his scientific and missionary labours.

Miscellaneous News.

THE LEVIATHAN sticks fast on her "ways," preferring the cradle to her "native element." During the past week she has been moved a few feet only. The expense of her launching is stated at a most fabulous amount.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.—The Sheffield Town Council on Wednesday adopted a petition to Parliament in favour of a rate-paying suffrage, vote by ballot, and other measures of reform. They also adopted a petition, praying for an inquiry into the causes of the existing commercial distress.

FATAL ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE.—A young man named Pattinson, a tinplate worker in Carlisle, while recently attempting to escape from some county court bailiffs, was drowned in the river Eden. Pattinson was what is termed a respectable man for his station in life.

ARCHBISHOP CULLEN AND THE PATRIOTIC FUND.—The Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund have declined to enter into any controversy with Dr. Cullen, whose "observations" they have carefully considered. In a letter from their secretary to Dr. Cullen, they state that they have administered the fund with strict impartiality to persons of different religious persuasions; and refer him, for evidence of the error of his charges, to a report now in preparation for presentation to the Queen.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY TO BE LIGHTED WITH GAS.—It having been resolved that divine service shall be performed in Westminster Abbey on Sunday evenings, at the commencement of the new year, the dean and chapter have exerted themselves to provide for the comfort of the parties assembling for public worship, and have decided that gas shall be introduced into the Abbey. On Saturday last workmen were employed in opening the ground and paying out the service pipes into the sacred edifice. This arrangement will cost a considerable sum of money.

THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW, held last week in the Baker-street Bazaar, surpassed its predecessors in the number and quality of the animals exhibited. There were fewer specimens of the extreme of fatness than ever; and smallness of size combined with high condition carried away the palm from mere bulk and ponderosity. The complaint now is, that the show, both in animals and implements, has far outgrown the accommodation afforded by the Bazaar; and the thousands of curious persons who have flocked daily to the exhibition have suffered much inconvenience. Among the winners of first prizes are the Prince Consort, Mr. Heath, of Ludlam Hall, Norwich, the Earl of Leicester, Mr. Coate, of Hamoon, Mr. R. Lynn, of Stroxton, Grantham, the Earl of Darnley, Colonel Pennant, of Penrhyn Castle, the Earl of Radnor, Mr. G. S. Foljambe, of Osberton Hall, Lord Berners, and the Duke of Richmond. The silver medal for the best beast was awarded to the Prince Consort; the gold medal for the best pen of long-wooled sheep, to Lord Berners—for the best pen of short-wooled sheep, to the Duke of Richmond.

MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CHOIR.—The very interesting concerts of this choir have been resumed for the season. The first was given on Thursday evening, at the Hanover-square rooms, under Mr. Leslie's direction. Handel's anthem, composed in 1737 for the funeral of Queen Caroline, constituted the principal feature of the first part of the concert, was very admirably performed, and produced a deep impression, though almost unfitted for a miscellaneous concert. The second part consisted of part songs and madrigals, which were sung to perfection. M. Leslie's admirably trained choristers sing as well, every whit, as the much lauded Cologne choir, and, generally speaking, much better music. The sweet and mellow quality of the voices, their perfect *ensemble*, and the precision and *oneness* of effect with which all the gradations of loud and soft, and all the delicacies of expression were given, did the highest honour both to the choir and to their able director. The room was filled by an audience among whom were a great number of our musical notabilities. The next concert will take place at St. Martin's Hall on the 22nd. It is intended during the season to give a performance of Mr. Leslie's own oratorio, "Immanuel."

SHOCKING INHUMANITY.—On Saturday afternoon week, a very interesting young lady, about 20, arrived at Folkestone by the four p.m. express train from London in a state of helplessness and speechless, having been placed in the carriage in that state at London-bridge, as was ascertained from the guard, by some person who gave him a sovereign to procure any refreshment she might require on the journey. She remained in the waiting room at the station, and partook of some tea. A few minutes before the departure of the boat she was taken on board by one of the harbour policemen, under the direction, as we understand, of the harbour master, and placed in the ladies' cabin, receiving every attention from the captain and those on board, but neither spoke nor moved during the passage. On the arrival of the boat at Boulogne she was taken on shore and carried to the Hotel de Paris. Dr. Scott and another gentleman were immediately summoned, who considered her dying, and truly, for she gradually sank and expired on Sunday night, everything having been done that could be. Disgusting to relate, on undressing her, a large label was found fastened to her dress, as if she were a bale of goods, and in her purse, which contained 7*l.* (and which was also fastened inside her dress) was a piece of paper, affording the only clue as to who or what she was, and her destination. From this it seemed that she had been a governess somewhere in London, that her salary was paid up to the 6th December, and that she was going to her brother-in-law in Amiens. On the discovery a telegraphic despatch was immediately sent to her friends, who arrived on Sunday, but too late for her to recognise them.—*Kentish Gazette.*—*La Colonne*, a journal of Boulogne, states that the poor girl was attacked with typhoid fever in the house of Mrs. Corre, with whom she lived in London, and that, in a speechless and helpless state, she was taken by that lady to the London-bridge railway station, labelled to be sent to her brother-in-law at Amiens, and with her money sewn up in her stays. Mrs. Corre did indeed request two ladies who were in the same railway carriage to take care of her, and, since she was unable to help herself, Mrs. Corre gave the guard a sovereign to purchase what she might require. The police authorities at Boulogne have made a report upon this affair to the Procureur Impérial. It seems to have excited a very strong feeling in France. *La Colonne* states that Mrs. Corre pretends to have been merely guided by her physician's advice in sending this fever patient across the Channel.

Law, Police, and Assize.

THE DENISON CASE.—The arguments of counsels in this case have been concluded. The Court reserves judgment.

MR. STEPHENS, who was occupied several days last week in revealing the secrets of the London and Eastern Banking Company before the Edinburgh Court of Bankruptcy, is, it appears, *non est*. In other words, he failed to make his appearance when called upon to give evidence on Monday morning; and it is stated that he left Edinburgh on Saturday night for London.

SELLING THE DEAD BODIES OF PAUPERS.—It appears from a complaint made to the Lambeth magistrate, that the master of Newington workhouse and the parish undertaker have been secretly selling the bodies of deceased paupers for anatomical purposes; in some cases substituting other bodies for them, so that people followed to the grave an entire stranger. The master has been dismissed. Further proceedings are to be taken.

THE BRAMHALL MURDER CASE occupied four days at the Chester Assizes last week. The particulars have been already stated. James Henderson was accused of murdering his father—shooting him in his bed in the middle of the night. James raised an alarm, stated that he had fired at robbers, and that they had run from the house. No trace of robbers was found. A great point against Henderson was, that scraps of paper which had evidently been used for wadding, found in the deceased's bedroom, appeared to have been torn from a book which was in the prisoner's room. A strong circumstance in his favour was, that his brothers and sisters deposed that on the morning of the murder they had heard footsteps on the stairs that were not James's—he is lame, and his tread is peculiar. There were doubts in the case. The Jury consulted for two hours, and then gave a verdict of "Not guilty." It was received with bursts of applause.

IN RE WILLIAM FREEMAN.—In the Bankruptcy Court on Friday, the examination of Mr. Freeman, late publisher of the *Nonconformist*, was resumed. The accounts prepared by Mr. Thomas extend over 114 sheets. They ranged from the 1st of January, 1856, to the 28th of September, 1857, exhibiting these items: Creditors unsecured, 2,376*l.*; ditto holding

securities, 789*l.*; liabilities, 1,650*l.*; profits in trade, 1,491*l.*; capital at commencement, 1,168*l.*; rents received, 71*l.*; debtors, good, 578*l.*; doubtful, 144*l.*; property surrendered to assignees, 928*l.*; ditto in the hands of creditors, 371*l.*; trade expenses, 1,175*l.*; personal, 583*l.*; losses, 2,088*l.* The bankrupt's losses are chiefly on share transactions, in which he had embarked. The bankrupt had been a director of the Paris Chocolate Company. Mr. Spicer appeared for the assignees, and Mr. Lawrance for the bankrupt. There was no opposition, and the bankrupt passed his examination; the certificate meeting being appointed for the 8th January at 11 o'clock. Mr. Lawrance applied that the accountant's charges be paid out of the estate. The Commissioner acquiesced. The bankrupt, who appeared in court with his head shaved, and whose general appearance excited deep commiseration among all present, having received an extension of his protection until the certificate meeting, the proceedings concluded.

One of the Most Singular Criminal Cases on Record, from the position of the accused and the paltry nature of the object sought, was before the Preston magistrates last week. Edward Turner, a reed-maker, of Preston, died recently. He was attended by Mr. Monk, a surgeon. Turner seems to have had no very near relatives. Soon after his death Mr. Monk tried to get money of Turner's from a bank "to pay wages," by producing a paper purporting to be a will, but the bank refused him. Then he produced a will in his own favour, dated February, 1855, purporting to be signed by Turner, witnessed by James Holden and Joseph Wilkinson, and appointing Monk and Thomas Clark executors. Clark is dead. Mr. Monk took out probate, and got possession of Turner's property. Mr. Monk is an old man; he is an alderman, and has been mayor; he is a deputy-lieutenant of the county, and a magistrate for the borough. The property of Turner, clear of debts, is estimated at *one hundred pounds* only, and the will encumbered that with a payment of 3*s.* a-week to a housekeeper. Suspicions arose that Turner had not died a natural death: an inquest was opened, and the viscera of the deceased were sent to Professor Taylor for examination. While the fearful charge of murder seemed to be threatening Mr. Monk, he was arrested on an actual charge of forgery—the forgery of Turner's will. At first there were strong suspicions only; then one of the alleged witnesses of the will swore that the signature was not his; and presently the real writer of the will was discovered in the person of a Mrs. Pipe, wife of a hairdresser. On Tuesday week this woman was examined by the magistrates. She fainted when brought into court, but on her recovery gave very clear evidence. She admitted that she wrote the will. Mr. Monk was her medical man. About three months since, "I remember having occasion to call at his surgery one morning to consult him." [Subsequently the witness had the words "to consult him" expugned from her evidence. From this, and the husband's exclamations, Monk and the woman seem to have been acquainted otherwise than as doctor and patient.] On that morning Mr. Monk asked her to copy a paper—to write large like a man: what she wrote was the alleged will. The name "James Holden" was on the paper she copied from, or she was told to put it on the copy she made, but not "James Wilkinson" and "Edward Turner." The counsel for the accused made a vain appeal for him, and the magistrates committed him, bail refused. Monk declined to say anything. The inquest on the body of Edward Turner was held on Friday. The prescriptions given by Mr. Monk were produced, and pronounced suitable to the deceased's bowel complaint by three medical men. There were no appearances of poison in the body at the *post-mortem* examination. Dr. Taylor's analysis stated that only a few small portions of mercury were discovered, which might have been medically prescribed. The jury immediately returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes."

Literature.

Outram and Havelock's Persian Campaign. By Capt. G. H. Hunt, 78th Highlanders. To which is prefixed a Summary of Persian History, and an Inquiry into the Origin of the late War. By George Townsend. London: G. Routledge and Co.

The name of General Havelock has now become one of our great historic names,—to be mentioned by Englishmen always with admiration and pride. But the brilliant exploits of the last few months, though they alone have taught his name to the people's mouth, do not form his only claim to the gratitude of his countrymen. The Indian mutinies have given the last and noblest opportunity to the General's military skill and bravery; but had they never occurred, we should still have had this story of the Persian Campaign,—and it would have reached us just as it does now, even had no other military operations given an interest to the names of Outram and Havelock,—and there would have been praise and rejoicing over the daring and success of the naval and military expeditions to the Persian Gulf, and its leaders would have taken a high and sure place among the highest of our great captains. Nor is this all;—for though the book of "Men of the Time" contained no mention of Havelock, he long since had inwoven his own life-story with the military history of British India, during the last five-and-thirty years. In the first Burmese war of 1824, Havelock was present in three important actions; and when the war closed was one of the officers sent on a mission to the court of Ava. After some twenty years' service, he received his company, just prior to the invasion of Affghanistan:—he accompanied that expedition on the staff of Sir W. Cotton; and was present at the capture of Ghuznee, and at the occupation of Cabool, after the flight of Dost Mohammed. Who does not remember the affair of the Khoord Cabool Pass?—at which Havelock was also present, under General Pollock, seeking to join Sir Robert Sale at Jellalabad: and on the final dispersion of the forces of Akbar Khan, the column commanded by Havelock won all the glory of the action; for which he himself received promotion and the dignity of C.B. Other brilliant services *out of* India followed. Then, Havelock accompanied the army to Gwalior, and was engaged in the battle of Maharajpoor; and afterwards, in the Sikh invasion, fought at Moodkee, Ferozepoor, and Sobraon. This was noble service; and the name of every engagement in which that service was rendered has become a household-word in England. Lord Hardinge appropriately placed such a man in the post of Adjutant-General of the Queen's troops in India. General Havelock has also been an author; his "History of the Ava Campaigns" (1827) and "Memoir of the Affghan Campaign" (1839), were both, we believe, published at London. Such is the man who, on the opening of the Persian Campaign on the 10th January in the present year, was appointed to command the second division of the forces organised under Sir James Outram, who had arrived from England to take the chief command. The history of that brilliant and glorious campaign is told in this volume by Captain Hunt.

We regret that, on mentioning the name of the author of this volume, we have to pause, and mourn Captain Hunt's premature decease. He accompanied Havelock in the advance on Cawnpore, and took part in its noble deeds,—but has since died suddenly of cholera, while this work on the Persian war was passing through the press. Here, also, we may remark on Mr. Townsend's part in the production of this volume. His sketch of Persian history is a useful, but not very interesting, piece of compilation. Far better is the "Inquiry into the Origin of the late War:" to which are added a few notes by the Hon. C. A. Murray;—so that the statements of this book may be taken as *officially* correct even if they do not reveal the whole *truth*. But Mr. Townsend has greatly exceeded the space proper for such introductory matter as he undertook to write; and his pages will be hastened over till Captain Hunt's personal narrative is reached.

Before Havelock joined his division in Persia, Sir James Outram "not being a man to keep the troops in idleness," led the British forces from Bushire to Brásjoon, where the enemy were said to be entrenched and to have eighteen guns. The following incidents, in which the quality and discipline of our troops were strikingly manifested, took place—

BEFORE THE BATTLE OF KHOOSH-AUB.

"Once in motion, the march became a very rapid one, all being anxious to reach the entrenchments and commence the morning's work. Shortly before one o'clock the Persian *vedettes* and reconnoitring party were made out, and, on our approach, retired before us. A short halt took place to get the regiments into their different positions for attack, when, to the disgust of all, the entire army in our front was descried in full retreat, and going off at such a pace as to render it hopeless attempting to overtake them. A smart brush, however, took place between their rear-guard and a few of our cavalry, in which an officer and two or three troopers received some slight wounds. . . . By two o'clock our force was in possession of their entrenched camp, and great quantities of ammunition of all kinds, together with grain and camp equipage, fell into our hands, the enemy having gone off in a most hurried and disorderly manner. The entrenched camp was outside the village of Brásjoon, and of itself was a most miserable defence, being perfectly practicable for cavalry to ride over at nearly all points, while, on the contrary, the village in its immediate neighbourhood might have been made even too formidable a post for our small army to have attempted. A wall, with tower bastions at intervals, enclosed the whole, and detached square towers within overlooked all. A ditch fifteen feet deep ran round the outside, and beyond it gardens, with high thorn and cactus fences. In proper hands the capture of such a place must cost both time and many sacrifices. The 6th and 7th February were passed in the enemy's position, destroying stores and searching for buried guns, which were afterwards ascertained to have been thrown down wells, their carriages and wheels being found by us and burned. Some treasure was also discovered, and many horses and carriage cattle secured. During this time no annoyance was experienced from the enemy, though an alarm on the night of the 6th caused the whole of the troops to stand to arms. . . . . However, all passed off without accident. Many spies were doubtless in our camp during the entire period of our stay, and the enemy were well informed of every movement; regardless of which, however, intercourse between the villagers and camp was encouraged, and such strict precautions enforced that they should not be pillaged or ill-treated, that they were civil if not friendly, and at any rate gave us no trouble.

"At eight o'clock on the evening of the 7th the return march to Bushire was commenced, the column taking with it as much of the captured stores as carriage was favourable for, and the military governor of Brásjoon as a prisoner—this personage proving a double traitor. The general's intentions that the return march was to be a leisurely one had been so widely made known through the force, that the stirring events then so shortly to occur were little indeed expected by anyone. After moving a few hundred yards clear of the entrenchment, the troops were halted to witness the explosion of a very large quantity of the enemy's powder, stated to be thirty-six thousand pounds, and a most magnificent as well as extraordinary spectacle it occasioned. The evening was darker than usual, and the rush of one mighty column of flame into the heavens, with cloud over cloud of bright silvery-looking smoke, mingled with shells, bursting like sky-rockets in the midst, attended by a report that made the hills echo again, and a concussion which shook the ground even where the advanced-guard stood, forming altogether an event of life not likely to be forgotten by anyone who beheld it. The pile of ammunition was fired by Lieutenant Gibbard, of the Horse Artillery, and Lieutenant Hussard, the adjutant of the 2nd European Light Infantry, with rifles and shell bullets, of Colonel Jacob's invention, from a distance of about 150 yards. Both these officers were thrown down by the concussion. Did any doubt previously exist of the formidable character of this new weapon and projectile the occurrence described fully removed it. The march was then resumed, and until midnight nothing took place to disturb the usual quiet, orderly movement onwards; indeed, the enemy having been reported as seen the day previously retiring in haste through the mountain-passes, and dragging his guns on sledges over country where it would have been madness to follow him, no idea of his proximity was entertained by any of at least the regimental officers of the army. If the staff possessed better intelligence, it was most religiously kept quiet. Shortly after midnight, however, a sharp rattle of musketry in the rear, and the opening of two horse artillery guns, put every one on the *qui vive*; and that an attack in force upon the rear-guard was taking place was apparent to all. The column at once halted, and then moved back to extricate the baggage and protecting troops. These, however, were so ably handled by Colonel Honnor (who was in command) as to need little assistance, save for the increasing numbers of the assailants. In about half an hour after the first shot was fired, not the rear-guard only, but the entire force, was enveloped in a skirmishing fire. Horsemen galloped round on all sides, yelling and screaming like fiends, and with trumpets and bugles, making as much noise as possible. One of their buglers had the audacity to go close to the front of a skirmishing company of the Highlanders, and sound first the 'Cease fire' and afterwards 'Incline to the left,' escaping in the dark. Several English officers having but a few years since been employed in organising the Persian troops, accounted for their knowledge of our bugle call, now artfully used to create confusion. The silence and steadiness of the men were most admirable, and the manœuvering of regiments that followed in taking up position for the remaining hours of darkness was as steady as an ordinary parade, and this during a midnight attack, with an enemy's fire flashing in every direction, and cavalry surrounding, ready to take advantage of the slightest momentary confusion. Pride may well be felt in the steadiness of any troops under such circumstances; and how much more so when, as on the present occasion, two-thirds had never before been under the enemy's fire. The horsemen of the enemy were at first very bold, dashing close up to the line, and on one occasion especially, to the front of the 78th Highlanders; but finding that they occasion no disorder, and having been in one or two instances roughly handled by the cavalry and horse artillery, this desultory system of the troops for the remainder of the night was effected under nothing more serious than a distant skirmishing fire. The formation adopted was an oblong, a brigade protecting each flank, and a demi-brigade the front and rear, field battery, guns at intervals, and a thin line of skirmishers connecting and covering the whole, the horse artillery and cavalry on the flank of the force fronting the original line of march, the front and flanks of the oblong facing outwards; the baggage and followers being in the centre. When thus formed, the troops lay down, waiting for daylight in perfect silence, and having no fire or light of any kind.

"During the completion of these arrangements, Sir James met with a severe accident—his horse falling with, and rolling over, him; but all was so quietly and rapidly carried out by the chief of his staff, Colonel Lugard, that few knew of the mishap until next morning. Scarcely was the formation completed, when the enemy opened five heavy guns, and round shot was momentarily plunging through and over our position—the range of which they had obtained very accurately. Our batteries replied; and this cannonade continued with occasional intervals until near daylight, causing but few casualties, considering the duration of the fire; one shot, however, plunging into the 64th regiment, knocked down six men, killing one of the number; and another, first taking off a foot from Lieutenant Greentree, also severely wounded Captain Mackler of that regiment. Several of the native followers and baggage animals in the centre were also killed and injured; but the quiet and orderly conduct of the troops doubtless saved them from many casualties; and the musketry fire having been but seldom replied to after the guns opened, the enemy had no opportunity of improving his original range.

"Thus matters continued until dawn, when the Persian fire having for some half-hour slackened, it was currently believed that they would make off, but, to the joy and surprise of all, as the morning mist cleared away, their army was descried in position, fairly offering us battle."

Then followed the battle, which issued, as is well-known, in victory to our forces; and the enemy left on the field 700 dead, and lost several guns, a standard, and most of their ammunition.

After General Havelock's arrival, an attack on the town of Mohammerah was arranged,—that place being one of some importance, at the confluence of the Karoon and Euphrates, and the enemy being reported to have erected formidable batteries, and to be in considerable force there. In this engagement, much of the honour of the success is awarded by Captain Hunt to the gallant fellows of the Indian navy,—the vessels

under Captain Young having almost silenced the forts of the town, while the troops were being disembarked and indispensable arrangements made for the attack. The rest of the story is worth quoting :—

BATTLE OF MOHAMMERAH.

"Our formation was as follows :—a line of contiguous quarter-distance columns ; a field-battery on the right. Next came the 78th Highlanders ; then the 26th Native Infantry (one wing), her Majesty's 64th regiment, the Light Battalion, and 23rd Bengal Light Infantry, the whole covered by a cloud of skirmishers. The point of attack was the camp to the left rear of the town of Mohammerah, where the Shah-zadeh had evidently pitched his cavalry and guns, and had been with them in person. His infantry had occupied the other encampment, about 500 yards to the right of this, and had also been quartered in considerable numbers in the batteries and date-groves adjacent. Up to the moment of our advance, these troops were drawn up, in order of battle, outside the boundary of the Shah-zadeh's camp, the right of their line far outflanking our left, which had actually no protection when it had once advanced into the open plain, beyond the 23rd Native Light Infantry being slightly thrown back. This great risk, however, caused no hesitation with Sir James. The compact red battalions moved steadily to their front, and the leading skirmishers had arrived within gun-range of the enemy's camp, the field-battery guns actually trotting up to assist them with their fire against the salutes of round shot and grape momentarily expected, when the Persian army seemed literally to have vanished, and, but for the tents still standing, would almost have induced a belief that an illusion of mirage rather than the presence of an armed host had been but so recently before us. At the last moment all courage had deserted the foe. The lesson of the morning had been too severe to induce even the Shah's guards, with his uncle, a prince royal, present at their head, to risk a repetition of the same, although the homes of many and the honour of all their countrymen depended upon the fortune of the day. Their army fled, although the odds were greatly in their favour, and they could hardly expect to meet us under more advantageous circumstances. Every tent was left standing, even that of their prince chief. The ground was strewed with arms, accoutrements, ammunition, band-instruments, saddlery, carpets, grain, bedding, and even their dinners. Many of our round shot and unexploded shells also, lay around, with bloody proofs of the mischief they had done, and of the tremendous range of the guns they were fired from. Very few of their wounded were found among all this *débris ;* so carefully had they either been carried off by their comrades, or concealed by the people of the town close by."

The results of this battle,—in the acquisition of arms and accoutrements, immense stores of grain and of ammunition, besides the entire tentage of the Persian army,—and in demonstration of the superiority and determination of the British force,—were even more important than those of Khoosh-aub. We cannot, however, trace the progress of the campaign; and shall altogether pass by the expedition to Akwaz, in which the thousands of Persia retreated before a mere handful of three hundred men. The author's sketches in camp at Bushire, and scenes in Persia, are highly interesting.

Captain Hunt's narrative further contains an account of a visit to Bagdad, made when negotiations for peace had been concluded by Persia, and the brilliant campaign of Outram and Havelock had reached a sudden close.

The conclusion of the story is, how General Havelock, Captain Hunt, and other officers of the 2nd Division, returning to Calcutta in the *Erin*, encountered disasters at sea. That vessel struck, in the night-time, on a reef, on the north side of Ceylon,—her fate was soon sealed,—and "the lives of those on board were dependent, under Providence, on the time that wood and iron could hang together against the wind and sea then raging around." Happily, these lives, since so valuable to British interests in India, were spared ;—after a fearful night of nearness to death, all were landed without accident at daybreak ;—the treasure also was saved, but not one iota of a costly cargo valued at more than 200,000*l.* The Persian party found much excitement prevailing in Ceylon, respecting news from India ; and on arriving in Madras roads, received intelligence of the death of General Anson while marching to the re-capture of Delhi, and of the wide-spread outbreak by which the treacherous army of Bengal has struck at British power in India. They proceeded at once, in company with Sir Patrick Grant, to Calcutta ; and Captain Hunt's last words are :—"Here a new field for adventure, though a melancholy one for military distinction, opened out to the comrade regiments in Persia ;"—and on that "melancholy" field, the author himself has fallen.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 9, at Chevet, Lady M. SWINNERTON PILKINGTON, of a son.

Dec. 11, at Upminster, Essex, the wife of the Rev. G. KETTLE, of a daughter.

Dec. 12, at Mount Radford, Exeter, the wife of the Rev. STEWART WILLIAMSON, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Dec. 8, at the Scottish Church, Regent-square, London, by the Rev. J. Hamilton, D.D., JOSEPH MERRICK, Esq., of Limerick, to MARY, youngest daughter of JOHN MENZIES, Esq., Newcastle.

Dec. 10, at Little Portland-street Chapel, by the Rev. Edward Tagart, Mr. G. CLEGG, of John-street, Pentonville, to HELEN, only daughter of Mr. W. ROSEWELL, of Windmill-street.

DEATHS.

June 6, supposed killed, at Cawnpore, on their way to the entrenchments, under Sir Hugh Wheeler, GEORGE DAVID DE BUSETT, MARGARET ELIZABETH, his wife (eldest daughter of the late C. S. Stowell, Esq., of Agra): also, at the same time and place, their daughter MARY, aged three years and seven months, and their infant son GEORGE, aged six months.

Early in July, in the Residency in Lucknow, FRANCES ELLEN, wife of Lieutenant G. H. HALE, 57th Regiment B.N.I., third son of Archdeacon HALE, Master of the Charter House, in the twenty-first year of her age. On the 23rd Sept. KATHARINE CAROLINE SOPHIA, their only surviving child, aged two years.

Recently, at Simla, from the effects of a lingering attack of Indian fever, brought on by anxiety on account of her husband, whom she had not seen since he parted company with her in the course of last June, the wife of Colonel GREATHED, whose recent successes have been recently recorded.

Aug. 17, drowned off the Cape of Good Hope, from the lifeboat of the ship *Orwell*, which was lowered to save a soldier of the 77th Regiment who had fallen overboard, LEEDS BISSET BOOTH, Esq., of Chichester-place, Brighton, aged nineteen years.

Nov. 30, at Wellingborough, of typhus fever, CATHERINE MARY, only surviving daughter of the late Rev. J. RENALS, Independent Minister of that place.

Dec. 3, of bronchitis, THOS. JAMES WATSON, gent., formerly of Clare Hall, Cambridge, and twenty-eight years Principal of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Old Kent-road, London, greatly respected and very deeply lamented.

Dec. 6, at Saltram, the Dowager Countess MORLEY, aged seventy-five years.

Dec. 7, at Wrexham, North Wales, the Rev. ENOCH GRIFFITH, pastor of the Baptist Chapel in that town, and formerly of Burnham, Essex.

Dec. 7, at Coethen, in Germany, after much sufferings, Frau Dr. AMALIA SUSS, third daughter of the late Dr. SAMUEL HARNEMANN.

Dec. 8, of apoplexy, JAMES FRUTON, Esq., banker, Rochdale, in his sixty-fifth year.

Dec. 10, after a long affliction, JOHN DIXON PIPER, of Colne Engaine, Essex, aged sixty-four years.

Dec. 10, Mr. WM. MUNRO, of Temple-street, for upwards of fifty years a much respected inhabitant of the Precinct of Whitefriars, in the seventy-first year of his age.

Dec. 12, at his residence, Hazlewell Hall, Worcestershire, CHARLES HUSKISSON, Esq., the last surviving brother of the late Right Hon. WM. HUSKISSON and General SAMUEL HUSKISSON, in the eighty-fourth year of his age.

Dec. 15, by license, at the Tabernacle, Haverfordwest, by the Rev. T. G. Stamper, Mr. JOHN CRUNN, of Trehelin, Llanemda, to MARY, daughter of Mr. WILLIAM PERKINS, of Trevelyarn, St. Nicholas, Pembrokeshire.

Dec. 16, at the Congregational Church, Holloway, by the Rev. A. Stewart, of Palmer House, the Rev. J. KETLEY, jun., of Farnham, to MARY HARRIET, eldest daughter of the late THOMAS BRADBURY, Esq., of Manchester.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The stock market has been stronger during the past week? On Friday, notwithstanding fresh failures, the funds closed ⅛ per cent. higher than on the preceding day. On Saturday they opened at an advance of ⅛ per cent., owing to the highly favourable Bank return; but some sales were then pressed, and a reaction of ¼ to ⅜ per cent. took place. Consols closed slightly lower than on Friday. On Monday, after a total decline of ⅜ per cent. from the first quotations of the morning, the market again became firmer, closing ⅛ to ¼ per cent. lower than on Saturday. To-day the market opened languid but revived towards the close. Continued sales of stock, stated to be on behalf of the savings banks, have added to the depression.

The Bank return this week shows that the reserve of notes is now 3,900,485*l.* The increase of bullion is 713,022*l.* The amount of gold sent into the Bank of England yesterday was 380,000*l.* A further sum will probably follow to-day, so that the next weekly return is likely to show a very important amelioration in the general resources of the establishment. The aggregate of newly imported gold purchased by the Bank since the date of the last return is thus raised to upwards of three-quarters of a million. Some relaxation in the pressure for discount accommodation both in Lombard-street and at the Bank of England is now perceptible, and the consequence is that the best descriptions of commercial paper are negotiated at a fraction below the official minimum. The Bank, if it continues to receive such large quantities of notes and gold, will speedily lower the terms to nine per cent., but it is not thought that any immediate alteration will be made.

The letters by the overland mail indicate a favourable movement in the exchange on London at Calcutta and Hong Kong, and an unfavourable tendency at Bombay and Shanghai.

The imports of the precious metals last week were extraordinarily large, being not less than 1,188,000*l.* The total ascertained shipments were about 222,000*l.*, nearly all silver.

A moderate amount of business has been done in Foreign Stock at prices exhibiting no particular variation. A very limited business has been done in the Railway Share Market, but prices have slightly improved. Mining Shares are very quiet. Joint Stock Bank Shares are flat. The Miscellaneous Market exhibits little alteration.

We regret to observe that the news generally from the manufacturing districts continues bad. The numbers of the unemployed and destitute are steadily increasing in somedistricts in consequence of the total stoppage of some mills; but in Blackburn, during the latter end of last week, several mills and weaving sheds have commenced working full time. In Manchester the week ending on Saturday last, 12,114 persons had received out-door relief, being an increase as compared with the previous week of 919 cases. About 600 persons were now in the house of industry, and 300 were on the farm last Saturday. All these were able-bodied men.

The general business of the port of London has continued active during the past week. The number of ships reported inward was 250. Those cleared outward amounted to 102, including 22 in ballast. The number on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 57.

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette.*)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1857.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	*£24,043,255	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	5,459,900
		Gold Bullion	7,568,255
		Silver Bullion	—
	£24,043,255		£24,043,255

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities	£5,434,022
Rest	3,493,918	Other Securities	30,111,185
Public Deposits	6,648,062	Notes	3,900,485
Other Deposits	14,440,724	Gold & Silver Coin	501,234
Seven Day and other Bills	811,222		
	£39,946,926		£39,946,926

* N.B.—Of which 2,000,000 are issued under the authority of the letter from the First Lord of the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Dec. 10, 1857. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, December 11, 1857.

BANKRUPTS.

TYRRELL, T., Tonbridge, Kent, factor and commission agent, December 22, January 21; solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Aldermanbury.

HAMIT, G., Haddenham, Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire, machine maker and whitesmith, January 6 and 19; solicitor, Mr. Rennolls, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

WOLFE, T., Wellington-street, Woolwich, corn chandler, December 23, January 27; solicitor, Mr. H. P. Capreol, Gray's-inn-square.

BAKER, W., and BAKER, L. S., Church-street, Camberwell, milliners, December 23, January 27; solicitors, Messrs. Depree and Austen, Lawrence-lane.

MIDDLETON, C., Upper North-street, Poplar, builder and beerseller, December 22, January 19; solicitor, Mr. Stubbs, Moorgate-street.

HORTON, E., Well-street, South Hackney, grocer, December 22, January 19; solicitor, Mr. Murrough, New-inn, London.

ALLPORT, R., Page Fields, Millwick, Staffordshire, butcher, December 23, January 13; solicitors, Mr. Bowen, Stafford; Messrs. Wright, Birmingham.

ROBERTS, D., Halifax, Yorkshire, worsted spinner, December 31, January 22; solicitors, Mr. Sutcliffe, Sowerby-bridge; Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

LAW, J., Halifax, Yorkshire, boot and shoemaker, December 31, January 29; solicitors, Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

VIGRASS, J., Walsall, Staffordshire, timber-merchant, December 23, January 13; solicitors, Mr. East, Birmingham; Mr. Harris, Bristol.

JONES, E., Welshfrankton, Salop, boat builder, timber merchant, and tile dealer, December 24, January 16; solicitors, Mr. Wace, Ellesmere; Messrs. James and Knight, Birmingham.

PICKFORD, T. E., Manchester, commission agent, December 23, January 25; solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

CAMM, G., Sheffield, grocer and provision dealer, January 2 and 30; solicitor, Mr. Broadbent, Sheffield.

ROBINSON, T., Manchester, ironmonger, December 21, January 20; solicitors, Messrs. Boote and Jellicorse, Manchester.

MORTON, G., Brough Mill, Derbyshire, miller and farmer, January 2 and 30; solicitor, Mr. Broadbent, Sheffield.

PRITCHARD, T. M., and HIGGINSON, T., Liverpool, rice merchants, and cocoa, chocolate, and chicory manufacturers, December 29, January 19; solicitors, Messrs. Morris and Son, Liverpool.

SWINNERTON, E., Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, victualler, December 24, January 16; solicitor, Mr. Smith, Birmingham.

RHODES, S., and ARMSTRONG, J., Tintwistle, Cheshire, cotton manufacturers and cotton spinners, December 23, January 18; solicitors, Messrs. Slater and Myers, Manchester.

Tuesday, December 15, 1857.

BANKRUPTS.

STONE, F., Oxford, hotel keeper, December 22, January 28.

CHAPMAN, J., Sevenoaks, grocer, December 22, January 21.

LEMERE, H. B., High-street, Notting-hill, draper, December 29, January 22.

TYZACK, H., Old-street-road, tool manufacturer, December 29, January 22.

FALK, R., Little Tower-street, merchant, December 28, February 1.

M'BEAN, J., Pillgwenlly, near Newport, shoemaker, December 29, January 26.

ROBERTS, W. S., Leicester, music seller, January 5 and 13.

FREEMAN, J., Bradford, wool top maker, December 31, January 29.

HILL, T., Areley Wood, near Stourport, Warwickshire, timber merchant, December 28, January 20.

HAYWARD, A., Shrewsbury, innkeeper, December 31, January 22.

BATES, W., Surbiton, Kingston-upon-Thames, licensed victualler, January 6 and 26.

WHEALS, C., late of Lowestoft, tailor, January 6 and 29.

HAIGH, E., Hipperholmecum-Brig-house, Yorkshire, cotton spinner, January 11, February 1.

PILKINGTON, C., and PILKINGTON, T., Sheffield, joiners' tool makers, January 2 and 30.

HULME, S., Heaton Norris, Lancaster, cotton spinner, December 29, January 18.

ELLIS, T., Heeley Tilt, Sheffield, steel manufacturer, January 2 and 30.

ROACH, T. D., Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant, January 6, February 3.

HILL, D., Edenhall, Cumberland, cattle dealer, December 23, January 26.

BESHIKTASLIAN, A., Manchester, merchant, December 29, January 27.

M'CARTAN, T., Kingston-upon-Hull, linen draper, January 6, February 3.

CRABTREE, J., and CRABTREE, J., Habergham Eaves, Lancashire, cotton manufacturers, December 30, February 1.

Markets.

GREAT CATTLE MARKET.—MONDAY.

The show of fat cattle at Islington to-day, which is termed the "great day," or Christmas market was exceedingly good. The number of beasts, for which part was bespoke, was 7,634, of which the number brought up by the London and North-Western Railway, was no less than 4,090, in first-rate condition. Of beasts there was a splendid display at the stands of the various salesmen. At the stand of Mr. Maydwell, were some very superior Scotch cattle fed by Messrs. M'Combie and other breeders, besides a general show of good Christmas beasts of various other breeds. At the stand of Messrs. Giblett and Gurrier were a very large supply of Scotch oxen. There were some fine beasts of other breeds amongst them, some of superior excellence from the Midland Counties. Mr. Collins had also on sale his usual supply of splendid animals, and his stand caused great attraction through the day. Mr. Robert Morgan exhibited a large number of choice animals from Scotland, Norfolk, and the home counties fully equal to former years. Messrs. Burrell also had a fine display. Altogether the supply was exceedingly fine, and of a very saleable description, none

being preposterously fat. The number of beasts spoken for was the largest that has been recorded for some years, the dull state of trade generally in country districts causing more stock to be sent to London. The beef trade was dull, the general price realised for the best quality being 7d per lb, or 4s 8d per stone, but some few sold more favourably, say at 2d per stone above this quotation. Inferior qualities went at 4s to 4s 4d. The supply of sheep at this market is not now generally expected to be very large, but for the time of year, it may be said that there was a seasonable supply, and the best quality were fairly distributed over the various stands. The Cotswold sheep attracted great attention through the day. Altogether the quality of the sheep on offer was as good as in former years. The trade for mutton was also dull and heavy, and the primest quality did not exceed 5s 4d per stone. Inferior, but good, were at 4s 8d to 5s per stone of 8lbs. There were scarcely any calves in the market, but such as were on sale found dull buyers at about 4d per stone advance on former prices, say 4s 8d to 5s 6d per 8lbs. Next Friday will be the grand show-day of calves. Pork was an exceedingly slow sale at about 6d per lb., being 4s per stone, which is under last week's prices. Pigs are likely to sell better at the close of the week.

Per 8lbs to sink the offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3 4	to 3 6	Pr. coarse woolled	4 2	to 4 10
Second quality	3 8	4 0	Prime Southdown	5 0	5 4
Prime large oxen	4 2	4 4	Lge. coarse calves	4 4	5 0
Prime Scots, &c.	4 6	4 8	Prime small	5 2	5 6
Coarse inf. sheep	3 2	3 8	Large hogs	4 0	4 6
Second quality	3 10	4 0	Neat sm. porkers	4 8	5 2

Lambs, 0s 0d to 0s 0d.

Suckling calves, 21s. to 28s: Quarter-old store pigs, 22s to 29s each.

A Statement and Comparison of the Supplies and Prices of Fat Stock exhibited and sold in the great Metropolitan Cattle Market, on the "great days" in 1856 and 1857.

	1856.				1857.			
Per 8lbs. to sink the offal..	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Coarse and inferior beasts..	3	4	to 3	6	3	4	to 3	6
Second quality ditto.....	3	8	4	0	3	8	4	0
Prime large oxen.....	4	2	4	8	4	2	4	4
Prime Scots, &c.....	4	10	5	0	4	6	4	8
Coarse and inferior sheep..	3	10	4	2	3	2	3	8
Second quality ditto	4	4	4	8	3	10	4	0
Prime coarse woolled ditto	4	10	5	0	4	2	4	10
Prime Southdown ditto....	5	2	5	4	5	0	5	4
Large coarse calves.....	3	10	4	8	4	4	5	0
Prime small ditto	4	10	5	6	5	2	5	6
Large hogs	3	8	4	4	4	0	4	6
Neat small porkers.....	4	6	5	2	4	8	5	2

Supplies on Sale.	1856.	1857.
Beasts	6,748	6,856
Sheep.....	16,090	18,450
Calves	172	69
Pigs	320	330

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Dec. 14.

Since our last report increased supplies of meat have reached us from Scotland and the provinces; but the show of meat killed in London has been only moderate. The trade generally is inactive, as follows:—

Per 8lbs by the carcass.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	2 10	to 3 0	Inf. mutton	3 0	to 3 4
Middling ditto	3 2	3 4	Middling ditto	3 6	4 0
Prime large do.	3 6	3 10	Prime ditto	4 2	4 6
Do. small do.	4 0	4 4	Veal	3 10	4 6
Large pork	3 6	4 4	Small pork	4 6	5 4

Lambs, 0s 0d to 0s 0d.

Advertisements.

WANTED, by a YOUNG LADY, a SITUATION in a BOOKSELLER'S SHOP or BAZAAR, has some knowledge of business, but wishes for improvement. Salary not an object. A comfortable home in a Dissenter's family is desired.

Apply, A. B., Post-office, Halsted, Essex.

TO HOSIERS and GLOVERS.—A YOUNG LADY who has a thorough knowledge of the business, is wishing for a SITUATION, and can be well recommended for business habits. Would not object to the Drapery.

Address, A. B., Post-office, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

CHEAPEST VERSUS CHEAP.—QUALITY THE ONLY TEST.

CABINET, UPHOLSTERY, and DECORATIVE FURNITURE, USUALLY SOLD AS CHEAP IS WORTHLESS, THE REALLY GOOD IS CHEAPEST, and may be had at moderate prices, at the

WEST-END FURNITURE MANUFACTORY.
A well-selected stock always on hand.
MATTHEW HENRY CHAFFIN
(LATE DUDLEY AND COMPANY)
66 and 67, Oxford-street, and 1, 2, and 3, Adam and Eve-court, London, close to the Princess's Theatre.
Importer of first-class Parisian Paper Hangings.
Established 1820.

UNADULTERATED BREAD.—PURVIS'S WHITE and BROWN WELSH DIGESTIVE BREAD has been tested by some of the first Analytical Chemists of the day and pronounced to be PERFECTLY FREE FROM ALL ADULTERATION and is strongly recommended by the most eminent physicians, especially to persons of weak digestion.

TESTIMONIALS.

12, Wellington-street, London-bridge, Oct. 5, 1855.

Dr. Lever begs to thank Mr. Purvis for the Bread he has sent him. In Dr. L.'s opinion it is the purest Bread he has tasted; he has placed it before many friends (some professional, some not), all agree in their verdict, "The best bread I have tasted."—J. C. W. Lever, M.D., Physician Accoucheur to Guy's Hospital.

13, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square.

Sir,—I have carefully analysed a loaf of your Welsh Bread, and I find it to be remarkably pure and sweet, free from all foreign or deleterious admixtures, containing nothing but the best wheat flour and water, mixed with the usual proportions of common salt, free from alum, and fermented in such a way as to render it light and easily digestible.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, ANDREW URE, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Chemistry, and Analytical Chemist to the Honourable Board of Customs.

W. PURVIS, 8, Walworth-road; 199, Blackfriars-road; 10, High-street, Islington; and 42, Aldersgate-street.

Families waited on daily.

DEAFNESS, NOISES in the HEAD.—Turkish Treatment by a retired Surgeon from the Crimea (who was himself perfectly cured). Just published, a Book, Self-Cure, free by post for six stamps. Surgeon COLSTON, M.R.C.S., 6, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, London. At home from Eleven to Four, to receive Visits from Patients.

A NEW SYSTEM OF MEDICINE.—THE ANTISEPTIC TREATMENT.—Great results by harmless means. The most extraordinary cures have been made by this treatment in long-standing complaints. Cancer treated without pain, Lupus, Scrofula, Consumption, Throat and Skin Diseases, Ulceration and Irritation of the Mucous Membrane, Indigestion with nervousness, Diarrhœa, and other Chronic Disorders. See Treatise on Acacia Charcoal, post free, 1s. By W. Washington Evans, M.D., 12, Bernard-street, Primrose-hill, London.

SARL'S ARGENTINE SILVER PLATE.—SARL and SONS, 17 and 18, Cornhill, invite attention to their very splendid STOCK of ARGENTINE SILVER, which continues to be the best substitute for solid silver, and has stood the test of sixteen years' trial. A large show-room in their new building is expressly fitted up for the display o articles manufactured in this metal. The stock comprises dinner, tea, and breakfast services, with every article for the table and sideboard. The Argentine silver spoons and forks are especially recommended for appearance, economy, and durability.

		Fiddle Pattern	Double Thread	King's Pattern
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
12 Table Forks	best quality	2 16 0	4 0 0	4 4 0
12 Table Spoons	,, ..	2 16 0	4 0 0	4 4 0
12 Dessert Forks	,, ..	2 0 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Dessert Spoons	,, ..	2 0 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Tea Spoons	,, ..	1 7 0	1 15 0	2 0 0
4 Sauce Ladles	,, ..	0 18 0	1 10 0	1 12 0
2 Gravy Spoons	,, ..	0 16 6	1 8 0	1 10 0
4 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	,, ..	0 8 0	0 13 0	0 15 0
Mustard Spoons, ditto, each	,, ..	0 2 0	0 4 0	0 6 0
Sugar Tongs	,, ,, ..	0 5 0	0 8 6	0 9 0
Fish Knives	,, ,, .	0 18 0	1 3 0	1 4 0
Butter Knives	,, ,, ..	0 5 0	0 8 6	0 9 0
Soup Ladles	,, ,, .	0 18 0	1 3 0	1 4 0
Sugar Sifters, pierced	,, ,, .	0 7 6	0 10 6	0 12 6
6 Egg Spoons, gilt	, .	0 15 0	1 0 0	1 4 0
Moist-sugar Spoons, each	, .	0 3 0	0 3 6	0 4 6
		1d 15 0	24 7 0	26 18 0
Discount for cash, £10 per cent.	..	1 13 6	2 8 6	2 13 6
Complete Service	.	15 1 6	21 8 6	24 4 6

These services may be fitted complete in mahogany case at a small additional charge. Any article can be had separately at the same price. One set of corner dishes and covers, 11l. 11s.; one set of dish covers—viz., one 20-inch, one 18-inch, and two 14-inch—four covers in all, 13l. 13s.; full size tea and coffee service, 11l. 11s.; cruet frames, 35s.; salvers, 18s., &c. An enlarged and costly book of engravings, with the prices attached, is just published, and may be obtained on application or by letter. Estimates of services of plate given.—Sarl and Sons (the new building), 17 and 18, Cornhill, opposite the Royal Exchange.

SARL'S EIGHT GUINEA GOLD WATCH.—SARL and SONS, Watch and Clock Manufacturers, 17 and 18, Cornhill, invite attention to their new and splendid stock of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES, each warranted, and twelve months' trial allowed. Silver watches, of highly-finished construction, and jewelled, with fashionable exterior, at 50s. to 10l. 10s.; gold watches, of all descriptions of movements, from 6l. 6s. to 50l. The above gold watch, for eight guineas, is the horizontal construction, jewelled in four holes, maintaining power, and with all recent improvements; they are in gold cases, exquisitely engraved, and with gold dials, richly or plainly ornamented. Warranty for correct performance, and a twelvemonth's trial is allowed. In answer to letters from the country, enclosing a remittance, they will be forwarded, in morocco cases, postage free. Books of patterns and prices can be obtained.—Sarl and Sons (the new building), 17 and 18, Cornhill, opposite the Royal Exchange.

SILVER PLATE.—SARL and SONS, 17 and 18, Cornhill.—A spacious and magnificent gallery is fitted up in Sarl and Sons' new building, for the display of SILVER PLATE. The entire stock is just finished, and comprises every article requisite for the table or sideboard. The patterns are from the most recent designs. The weight is given with each article, and charged by the oz.

Fiddle Pattern.	oz.	s. d.	£ s. d.
12 Table Spoons	80 at	7 4	11 0 0
12 Dessert ditto	20	7 4	7 6 8
12 Table Forks	30	7 4	11 0 0
12 Dessert ditto	20	7 4	7 6 8
2 Gravy Spoons	10	7 4	3 13 4
1 Soup Ladle	10	7 4	3 13 4
4 Sauce Ladles	10	7 10	3 18 4
4 Salt Spoons (gilt bowls)..			1 0 0
1 Fish Slice..			2 10 0
12 Tea Spoons	10	7 10	3 18 4
1 Pair Sugar Tongs			0 13 6
1 Moist-sugar Spoon			0 8 0
1 Sugar Sifter			0 15 0
1 Butter Knife, silver handle..			0 12 6
			57 16 2

Cottage pattern silver tea and coffee service.	Oz.	s. d.	£ s. d.
Tea Pot	23 at	10 0	11 10 0
Sugar Basin	11	11 0	6 1 0
Milk Ewer	8	11 0	4 8 0
Coffee Pot	28	10 0	14 0 0
			35 19 0

King's Pattern	oz.	s. d.	£ s. d.
12 Table Spoons	40 at	7 6	15 0 0
12 Dessert ditto	25	7 6	9 7 6
12 Table Forks	40	7 6	15 0 0
12 Dessert, ditto	25	7 6	9 7 6
2 Gravy Spoons	11	7 6	4 2 6
1 Soup Ladle	11	7 6	4 2 6
4 Sauce Ladles	11	8 0	4 8 0
4 Salt Spoons (gilt bowls)			1 19 0
1 Fish Slice..			3 0 0
12 Tea Spoons	14	8 0	5 12 0
1 Pair Sugar Tongs			1 5 0
1 Moist-sugar Spoon			0 15 0
1 Sugar Sifter			1 3 0
1 Butter Knife, silver handle..			1 3 0
			76 5 0

Queen's Pattern, richly chased.	oz.	s. d.	£ s. d
Tea Pot	24 at	10 6	12 12 0
Sugar Basin	12	11 6	6 18 0
Cream Ewer	8	11 6	4 12 0
Coffee Pot	28	10 6	14 14 0
			38 16 0

New silver exported is subject to a reduction of 1s. 6d. per oz., which is allowed to the customer at the time of purchase; the expense of shipment, which is trifling, to be defrayed by the purchaser. A new and costly book of engravings, with the prices attached, is just published, and may be obtained on application, or by letter. Estimates of services of plate given.—Sarl and Sons (the new building), 17 and 18, Cornhill, opposite the Royal Exchange.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH, USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY,

The LADIES are respectfully informed that this STARCH is

EXCLUSIVELY USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY,

and HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS says, that although she has tried Wheaten, Rice, and other Powder Starches, she has found none of them equal to the GLENFIELD, which is

THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.

Wotherspoon and Co., Glasgow and London.

DEFORMITIES of the SPINE, Club Foot, &c., for the Reception of Private Patients. Established 1829, at 272, Marylebone-road. Physician, Dr. George N. Epps.

IMMEDIATE RELIEF.

DURKEE'S GREEN MOUNTAIN VEGETABLE OINTMENT, at once relieves, on being applied, all who suffer from Boils, Insect Stings, Gout, Scrofula, Rheumatism, and all Inflammatory Wounds. Its power in all these cases is acknowledged to surpass any other medicine. Sold in pots, 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. each, by all Chemists.

Wholesale Agents, Preston and Sons, 94, Smithfield-bars.

SYMINGTON'S HIGH PRESSURE STEAM PREPARED PEAS, for SOUP. By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, No. 920, June, 1855.—Cheap, light, nourishing, and savoury Soup, made from these peas, in one minute, without boiling. An excellent light diet for all classes, an invaluable boon to the invalid. M. Soyer selected our peas for the hospitals at Scutari (see his "Culinary Campaign," page 34), and medical men of high reputation in all parts of the country strongly recommend them. Sold only in packets 1d., 2d., 4d., and 6d. each; and in tins, 1s. 6d. and 3s. each; also, prepared by the same process, Groats and Barley for Invalids, in tins, 6d. each; and Oatmeal, in packets, 1d., 2d., and 4d. each; Prepared and sold by patentees, W. SYMINGTON and CO., Bowden Steam Mills, Market Harborough.—Wholesale agents—London: J. and T. Wallis, 20, Duke-street, London-bridge. Edinburgh: J. W. Mackie, 108, Princes-street. Liverpool: Johnson and M'Gowan, Drysalters, Cork: Woodford, Bourne, and Co., Patrick-street. Manchester: G. N. Exton, 1, Cannon-street; and sold by all Grocers, Confectioners, and Provision Merchants throughout the Kingdom.

GALVANO-ELECTRIC CHAIN.

£10,000 DAMAGES.—The condemnation of Mr. C. Meinig to this heavy sum for infringing the rights of the Inventor of the Electric Chain will, it is hoped, make every purchaser particularly notice that no other fac simile or seal but J. L. PULVERMACHER'S is marked on each box, together with the National Arms of the six countries in which they are patented, without which none are genuine.

PULVERMACHER'S PATENT MEDICAL ELECTRIC CHAINS cure in a few days, sometimes instantaneously, without the least pain or inconvenience, or any other medicine, the most severe chronic and acute affections, rheumatism, gout, neuralgia, head and tooth ache, lumbago, sciatica, liver and bilous complaints, constipation, deafness, epilepsy, spasms, paralysis, and many heretofore incurable maladies. For their infallible powers of giving relief to these complaints they have received a reward from the Great Exhibition, 1855, an adoption by the Academie de Medicine, Paris, and also the highest eulogiums from the medical books and journals of every country, and thousands of unsolicited testimonials of cures from all classes of society, supported by the celebrated Drs. Golding Bird, Pereira, Lardner, Duchenne, Pouillett, Oppolzer, and many others equally distinguished. So perceptible and salutary are their effects when worn on the body, under the garments, that we invite every invalid to test them before purchasing. Chains 5s. and 10s. 6d. The most useful are the 15s., 18s., and 22s., free by post.

J. L. Pulvermacher and Co., 73, Oxford-street, adjoining the Princess's Theatre, London.

Agents—Weiss and Sons, 62, Strand; Savory and Moore; Butler and Harding, 4, and Wood, 117, Cheapside; Rew, 282, Regent-street; Williams, 54, Piccadilly; Bailey, 26, Leadenhall-street; Balmer, near the Angel, Islington; Pharmacie Italien, 16, Tichborne-street; Gould, 198, Oxford-street; Collins, Polytechnic; Freeman, and W right, High-street, Kensington; Lidwell, 46, High-street, Notting-hill; Parkes, Woolwich; and Rolf, Gravesend.

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